

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING

September 7-8, 1989

DON HINES

Chairman

GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA
SEPTEMBER 7-8, 1989

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**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 7-8, 1989**

Chairman Don Hines presiding:

Thursday, September 7, 1989

Mr. James Jenkins, Jr.
Mr. Bert Jones
Mr. Norman McCall
Mr. Joe Palmisano, Jr.
Mr. Warren I. Pol

Secretary Virginia Van Sickle was also present.

Chairman Don Hines Presiding:

Friday, September 8, 1989

Mr. James Jenkins, Jr.
Mr. Bert Jones
Mr. Norman McCall
Mr. Joe Palmisano, Jr.
Mr. Warren I. Pol

Deputy Secretary Kell McInnis was also present.

The minutes of the regular monthly meeting of August 3-4, 1989, were unanimously approved at Thursday's meeting with a motion from Mr. Jenkins, and seconded by Mr. McCall.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Dave Morrison discussed the Duck Stamp Prints 1-5.

Mr. Morrison updated the Commission on what has been happening with the Duck Stamp Program since the August Commission meeting. The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies contacted Secretary Van Sickle and asked that they be provided with two prints as donations for the Seth Gordon Award to be presented at the annual conference of the International in September. Two prints were donated and the department received a very nice letter thanking them for the prints. Secretary Van Sickle learned of a First of Nation Russian Duck Stamp Print. Russia has entered into an agreement with their counterpart to the United States' Ducks Unlimited to create this duck stamp print for wetland use in the Soviet Union. Secretary Van Sickle sent a letter to the Ambassador, Yuri Dubinni, of the Soviet Consulate and has requested, if possible, that the First of Nation Russian Duck Stamp

be traded for a First of State Louisiana Duck Stamp. A copy of the letter went to Senator Breaux and Johnston and they are doing their part in Washington in trying to get the Soviet Consulate to agree to this exchange. The Governor's Edition Stamps have gone out on sealed bids and it is the estimation of the publisher that the very minimum that will be received from the sealed bid auction will be about \$30,000.

Mr. Morrison went on to discuss that the primary interest in appearing before the Commission was to discuss some duck stamp prints that the department currently owns. At the beginning of the duck stamp program it was decided that the department would maintain ownership of one through five of all additions (basically twenty-five prints). These prints will cost the department just a little under \$6,000 which will not be out of pocket expense but will be a direct deduction from the royalty payments. Currently the department has all five of the Governor's Edition and they will be displayed at the office where they will get some visibility. The Number 1 print will still be owned by the department but will be housed at the Governor's Mansion. The other prints will be stored in the Secretary's Office, Deputy Secretary, the Game Division Office, an Artist Proof print will be displayed in the Undersecretary's Office and the other will be in the Louisiana Room. The department is currently talking to some landowners about a donation of wetlands and if this happens the department will probably use one of the Governor's Edition prints to give to the land company for the donation of the property. The original concept behind keeping the prints was for the department at some later point in time use them as an option to raise more money than what they are worth today.

Mr. Morrison advised that there has been some people that have requested these prints and have asked that they have an opportunity to purchase Number 1. The department would like some advice or input from the Commission as to what they felt was the best thing to do with these prints.

Secretary Van Sickle asked for the Commissioner's recommendation on this issue. She informed the Commission that the lead author on the duck stamp bill had requested Print Number 1. Mr. Pol and Mr. Jenkins recommended that the department keep prints one through three and make a permanent display at the department headquarters building in Baton Rouge and utilize the rest of the prints for such things as wetlands, etc. Mr. Pol suggested that Number 4 and Number 5 be offered for purchase to the Representatives who co/authored the state duck stamp bill. Mr. Jones pointed out that with the Commission retaining the one through three print a precedent has been established that the first traded print will be four and five. Mr. Morrison advised that the agreement that was reached with the publisher is that there are serious collectors out there and if the department requested one through five of a particular edition the publisher feels that it

was the department's job to go ahead and take it because the series has then been broken. If the department is going to get one through five now Mr. Morrison feels that the publisher would request that the department keep on getting one through five through the term of his particular contract. Every Legislator has been offered a personalized print for purchase and so far nineteen have responded with the deadline being last week pointed out Mr. Morrison. Mr. Jones questioned that if something of real unique value is offered to particular persons wouldn't this be wrong because the same opportunity is not given to others and believes the decision is premature in getting rid of these stamps right now. After further discussion on the duck stamp series among the Commissioners Mr. Jones moved that Prints 1-5 be kept by the department, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Phil Bowman presented notice of intent on Confidentiality of Fishery Dependent Data.

Mr. Bowman reported that this past year the department sponsored a bill which consolidated much of the authority relative to the collection of fishery dependent data (Commercial Landing Statistics). As part of this the department suggested that there be a provision in the bill to provide for confidentiality of this data. The National Marine Fisheries Service would not allow access to some of their specific data because Louisiana did not have a Confidentiality Statute. The legislator adopted Section C of Act 473 which states "The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall draft regulations prescribing procedures to preserve the confidentiality of any data, information or statistics submitted or collected pursuant to this section for approval by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and promulgated under the Administrative Procedure Act". A number of the Gulf states have been surveyed as well as some states in the south Atlantic region and their confidentiality provisions particularly the ones that have been approved by the National Marine Fisheries Service were reviewed. Mr. Bowman pointed out that the Commissioners had been provided with a notice of intent and draft rule on a confidentiality rule that would very closely mimics the rule that Mississippi has and Mississippi's rule has been adopted by the National Marine Fisheries Service as meeting their confidentiality standards. Mr. Bowman requested that the Commission pass a motion authorizing that the notice of intent be published in the State Register and initiate the promulgation of the confidentiality rule.

Chairman Hines called for questions or discussion on the notice of intent. Mr. Pol asked that it also be stated in the notice of intent that this information be available to members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. and not just employees of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries. Mr. Bowman

stated that he does not see a problem with this addition and it will be added.

At Friday's meeting a motion was made by Mr. Palmisano and seconded by Mr. Pol to adopt Notice of Intent on Confidentiality of Fishery Dependent Data. Passed unanimously.

(The full text of the notice of intent is made part of the record)

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations to preserve the confidentiality of any data, information or statistics submitted or collected pursuant to Section 345 of Title 56 of the Louisiana revised statutes. Authority for adoption of this rule is included in R.S. 56:345.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to: Jerry Clark, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000.

(The full text of the rule is made part of the record)

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations to preserve the confidentiality of any data, information, or statistics submitted or collected pursuant to Section 345 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes:

CONFIDENTIALITY: All data collected or otherwise obtained by personnel of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in the course of their duties and other landings data collected by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission are confidential, and are not to be divulged, except in aggregate form, to any person except employees of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA/NMFS) whose duties require this information, except as permitted by law or court order. Aggregate form, with respect to data shall mean data or information submitted by three or more persons that have been summed or assembled in such a manner so as not to reveal, directly or indirectly, the identity or business of any such person. Neither the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries nor members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will voluntarily release confidential information to other state or federal agencies, except NOAA/NMFS as stated above, and to the extent

possible, will oppose other agency and congressional subpoenas to obtain confidential information. Neither the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries nor members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will disclose confidential statistics under court order without specific approval by the State Attorney General's Office. Employees of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission who have access to confidential statistics shall be subject to the provisions and penalties for unauthorized disclosure.

At Thursday's meeting Chairman Hines welcomed Mayor Andy Valence to the meeting and thanked him for his invitation for having the Commission meeting in Grand Isle. Mayor Valence commented that on behalf of everyone in Grand Isle they welcome the Commission and department to the island.

At Thursday's meeting a notice of intent on Harvest Permit for Sharks was presented by Mr. John Roussel.

Mr. Roussel reported that Act 239 of the 1989 Session of the Louisiana Legislature required that persons commercially fishing for shark must obtain a permit from the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and it also requires the Shark Permit holders to report each trip the number of species and where the shark was taken. Initially it was assumed that the permit system would require rule making, however, the department's legal counsel has advised that rule making is not required and that the permits can be issued by the Secretary under the authority of the act. Basically the way this system will operate is that the department will issue a news release informing the public how and where to apply for a permit and the permit will actually be in the form of a letter from the Secretary of the department. In addition a form will be developed which outlines the required information which will be attached to the permit when they are issued advised Mr. Roussel. Secretary Van Sickle stated that there will be no fee for this permit and the whole objective is to get a handle on shark landings which have skyrocketed in recent years because of the export value of shark fins and the majority of those fins are coming out of Louisiana. The information collected through these permits will be the basis for a management plan on sharks possibly in the next year Secretary Van Sickle informed the Commission.

At Thursday's meeting the Final Analysis - Spotted Seatrout Quota was presented by Mr. John Roussel

Mr. Roussel reported that Section 325 of Title 56 sets an annual quota on the commercial fishery for spotted seatrout and it authorizes the Commission to close the commercial fishery when the quota is reached or projected to be reached. While the commercial fishery is operating the department tracks the commercial landings

using NMFS Landings Data Collection. The fishing year starts on September 1st and extends until the quota is reached. Periodically the department kept the Commission updated on the landings of spotted seatrout. On April 4th a projection was made to a closing date and order was issued effective April 9th, 1989. Since the closure NMFS has revised all of its monthly landing figures and the department now feels more competent that they have more accurate monthly landing data. The true landings during the past fishing year were 1,287,747 pounds which is a difference from the quota of 37,747 pounds. According to these figures the department's projection was very accurate (off only about 3%) concluded Mr. Roussel.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Dave Morrison presented a resolution on Ratification of Goodrich Oil Company Lease.

Mr. Morrison reported that Goodrich Oil Company requested that this lease be brought before the Commission to cover all the legal bases for this particular lease. Typically these leases are handled by the Secretary. Several years ago when the department first developed the rules and regulations for oil and gas development on the wildlife management areas and refuges the Commission gave the Secretary the authority to react to any oil and gas development on these areas. The department goes before the Mineral Board and the Mineral Board handles the leasing for the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. This particular lease became confused when the act of sale of the Russell-Sage property back in 1960 referred to the Commission and not to the department. Goodrich just wants to make sure they cover all the bases. The resolution is to make sure that everything is in order so that Goodrich can go ahead and start drilling on the property concluded Mr. Morrison.

At Friday's meeting a motion was made by Mr. McCall to adopt the resolution for Ratification of Goodrich Oil Company Lease and seconded by Mr. Jones. Passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution is made part of the record)

- WHEREAS: 1. On December 28, 1960, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission purchased a tract of land, consisting of 14,600 acres more or less, from the Ouachita Farm Corporation, which tract now comprises the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area.
2. The above Act of Sale provided that the Commission would receive an undivided one half (1/2) interest in and to all minerals in and under said property and an undivided one half (1/2) interest in and to any and all mineral and royalty rights and revenues pertaining to said property, the other one half

(1/2) interest to remain in the vendor Ouachita Farm Corporation.

3. Said sale also provided that the Commission would have the executive rights to the mineral interest retained by Ouachita Farm Corporation, that is, the exclusive rights to initiate, manage and handle all mineral royalty interests pertaining to the property, including the execution of leases.
4. On September 14, 1988, the State Mineral Board, on behalf of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, issued to the Goodrich Oil Company State Agency Lease #13309 for State Agency Tract #24295, which tract is comprised of land conveyed to the Commission in the above referenced sale and which comprises in part the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area. This lease was for the undivided fifty percent mineral interest owned by the Commission. The above lease was issued after review, approval, and recommendation of The Mineral Board and its technical staff.
5. A second mineral lease dated September 15, 1988, was obtained by Goodrich Oil Company from Ouachita Farm Corporation for the remaining fifty percent mineral interest.
6. The second mineral lease from Ouachita Farm Corporation contained no approval or ratification from this Commission, although such is required by the above referenced Act of Sale.
7. In order to insure that the second lease from Ouachita Farm Corporation was valid and legal, an Act of Acknowledgment and Ratification was prepared for execution by the Secretary of the Department acknowledging, accepting, adopting, and ratifying the second lease from Ouachita Farm Corporation, which Act was executed by the Secretary of the Department on August 7, 1989.
8. It is now the desire of this Commission to ratify the action of the Secretary in order to remove any legal impediment and induce Goodrich to drill and explore for oil, gas, or other minerals on the subject tract, under the state lease and the Ouachita Farm Lease.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Commission does hereby:

- a) adopt, accept, ratify, confirm, and execute the Ouachita Farm Corporation's undivided one half mineral interest as fully as if said lease had been originally executed by the Commission for and on behalf of Ouachita Farm Corporation;
- b) recognize the full validity of the same in so far as it effects all of the right, title, and interest of the Commission other than the Commission's undivided one half mineral interest;
- c) grant, lease and let unto Goodrich, Ouachita's undivided one half mineral interest subject to and in accordance with all the terms and conditions set forth in the Ouachita Farm Lease;
- d) ratify and confirm the action of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries of August 7, 1989, in executing the Act of Acknowledgment, Acceptance, Adoption, and Ratification of oil, gas, and mineral lease; and
- e) further authorize the Department's Secretary to take any and all necessary actions to perfect the above leases and Act of Ratification including but not limited to the execution of appropriate documents.

Grand Isle, Louisiana, this 8th day of September, 1989.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Johnnie Tarver presented a declaration of emergency, notice of intent and resolution for the 1989/90 Trapping Season Recommendations.

Mr. Johnnie Tarver reported that the overall value in the fur harvest last year declined dramatically since the 1981-82 season when it was worth over 18 million dollars. The average price for the past ten years has been approximately 9 million. However, we have been well below that average for the past seven of those ten years. The trend is not expected to change until the prices in related harvested nutria, muskrat and raccoon show a significant turn around. Results of the 1988-89 trapping season indicate a decrease in value of 2.8 million from the 1987-88 season. Over 42 percent of the decline in value was directly due to the drop in the prices paid for nutria. A approximate total of 9,400 licenses was sold in 1985-86, in 1986-87 5,000 licenses sold, and in 1988-89 3,000 licenses were sold. Seeing a decline in the number of trapping licenses and believe that this is directly related to the price of nutria because half of the trappers trap in the coastal

area. Mr. Tarver pointed out that the Commissioners should have received a package that explained all of this in great detail. Last year about 311,000 animals (pelts) were harvested and worth over a million dollars as compared to 18 million, which is quite a decline. Mr. Greg Linscombe will give a report that directly relates to fur harvest stated Mr. Tarver. Mr. Tarver then presented the resolution establishing the 1989-90 furbearer trapping season for the south zone and north zone to the Commission.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Palmisano made motion to accept resolution on 1989/90 Trapping Season Recommendations and seconded by Mr. Pol. Passed unanimously.

(The full text of the declaration is made a part of the record)

In accordance with the emergency provision of R.S. 49:953(b), the Administrative Procedures Act, R.S. 56:260, and action by the Commission on September 7, 1989, the trapping season is hereby established in accordance with the following regulations: No exceptions of these procedures will be permitted, and anyone taking fur bearers contrary to these regulations will be charged in accordance with Title 56 of the Louisiana Laws pertaining to Wildlife and Fisheries, appropriate federal laws and regulations, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regulations, and/or Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals regulations.

(The full text of the notice of intent is made a part of the record)

The fur industry of Louisiana is the result of a major wildlife resource and provides supplemental income for many of the citizens of our state; and as this resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase in importance; annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with sound wildlife management principles.

The creation of a north and south trapping zone continues to allow for the most efficient harvest of prime furbearers in these two diverse habitat types within the state. Therefore, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish the 1989-90 furbearer trapping season for the south zone as being December 1, 1989 through February 28, 1990. After carefully considering the market situation for some upland species, especially the raccoon, the Department, in an attempt to provide more opportunity for trapping of bobcat and fox after deer hunting seasons are closed, does hereby establish the 1989-90 furbearer trapping season for the north zone as November 20, 1989 through February 15, 1990, with the addition of an experimental season from February 16, 1990, through March 15, 1990, with trapping techniques restricted to the use of Soft-Catch traps (padded jaw traps) or

their equivalent. The Department Secretary shall be authorized to close or extend the trapping season in any portion of the state as biologically justifiable.

Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority for otter and bobcat furs continue to require placement of an export tag prior to out-of-state shipment. The regulations governing the buying, tagging and shipment of bobcat and otter pelts adopted for the 1989-90 trapping season may be viewed at the Quail Drive office, off Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, phone (504) 765-2811.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to Johnnie Tarver, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

(The full text of the resolution is made part of the record)

WHEREAS, The fur industry of Louisiana presents a major potential resource of economy and income for many of the citizens of out state; and

WHEREAS, This resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase in importance in our state; and

WHEREAS, An annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with recognized wildlife management techniques based on scientific management; and

WHEREAS, Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority concerning out-of-state shipment for otter and bobcat furs will again require placement of a possession tag by trappers or by buyers to insure state of origin; and

WHEREAS, The zonation concept has condoned to be beneficial in reducing late caught unprime furs and has produced mainly favorable comments generated within the fur industry;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish the 1989-90 furbearer trapping season for the south zone as being December 1, 1989, through February 28, 1990. The Department, in an attempt to provide more opportunity for trapping or bobcat and fox after deer hunting seasons are closed, does hereby establish the 1989-90 furbearer trapping season for the north zone as November 20, 1989, through February 15, 1990, with the addition of an experimental season from February 16, 1990, through March 15, 1990,

with trapping techniques restricted to the use of Soft-Catch traps (padded jaw traps).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the attached regulations governing the buying, tagging and shipment of bobcat and otter pelts are adopted for the 1989-90 trapping season.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department Secretary shall be authorized to close or extend the trapping season as biologically justifiable.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Tarver advised that a special report had been prepared at the Commission's request dealing with trapping and harvest alternatives and Mr. Jenkins asked that a preliminary report be given. Mr. Greg Linscombe gave an interim report to update the Commission on this issue.

Mr. Linscombe reported that following a report which was presented to the Commission a couple of months ago concerning coastal vegetation damage caused by muskrat and nutria a request was made that the department evaluate alternatives. It was pointed out by Mr. Jenkins that the department was depending almost entirely on potential fur market improvements to insure that adequate harvest of muskrat and nutria actually occurred and thus avoiding potentially serious damage. It was felt that this alternative control measure should be investigated as a backup to market enhancement. This is not the first time that muskrat and nutria have been considered furbearers; those who are familiar with Ted O'Neil's book that was written in 1942 know that he describes muskrat eatouts and how serious they were but at that time people in Louisiana were not aware of what coastal erosion was all about stated Mr. Linscombe. In 1958 the Louisiana Legislature set a .25 cent bounty on every nutria killed in sixteen of the southern parishes but Mr. Linscombe does not believe that the money was ever appropriated. The Fish and Wildlife Service setup an office in Houma called the Nutria Control Research Lab and worked there for four or five years attempting to develop control measures for nutria damages in sugar cane and rice. A book was published in 1970 on how to control these animals by the USFWS. In order to look at alternatives to commercial trapping to control these furbearers, the department met with the Fur and Alligator Council, a number of the larger coastal land managers, an individual with the LSU Wildlife Extension Service and also with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Damage Control. Some of the alternatives are:

- 1) Reclassify the animal and make it a unregulated or unprotected quadruped. Positive points are: this would allow and may actually encourage additional harvest, could take the animals year round; would work for nutria but not for muskrat because you are not going to shoot very many muskrat; would also allow for the year round sale of nutria meat to alligator

farmers and there was a demand for nutria this past year since there is such a rapidly expanding alligator farming industry. Negative points: such a reclassification is all inclusive, does not allow southwest Louisiana landowners to protect their animals while allowing southeast landowners to allow for uncontrol harvest, does not let you apply your controls to a specific damage area; some landowners will perceive this as a lost of management control and some of them have indicated that they could see fishermen shooting away with .22 pistols at nutria on the banks; does not provide an economic incentive; and to some extent may discourage continuity in a harvest program.

Mr. Jenkins asked about the negative points (no way to protect areas that need protecting) why couldn't there be areas that could open up. Mr. Linscombe answered that if it were unregulated by legislation it would be like the coyote is now. A coyote can be taken with a hunters license anytime during the year. There is no season for unregulated classification as compared to a non-game quadruped (furbearer or game animal). Mr. Jones suggested that it could be done through game - set a year round season in a certain area. The Secretary of the department has the ability to do this and this would be a possibility stated Mr. Linscombe.

2) Bounty system - Subsidy. Positive point: would be subsidizing the trapper through landowner control can increase the total harvest. Negative points: achievement of harvest on the area of damages is difficulty unless you have substantial record keeping and monitoring; might require legislative action; and no evidence exist to demonstrate that the bounty system has ever worked to control nuisance animal populations (in general this is true but the kind of bounty the department is talking about is a little different, so it has some potential).

3) Involve Federal Agencies. Positive points: the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Damage Control is assuming at least partial responsibility for other species of damage, now working with beaver coyotes and blackbirds in the state and picking up some of that responsibility from the wildlife department; and federal dollars coming in to address the problem. Negative point: Animal Damage Control has a very small staff and emphasis has been on extension.

4) Encourage more timely and active response on the part of landowners to avoid damage marsh. When a landowner calls the department at the end of the trapping season and they have a big eatout and ask for a permit, this is to late. The damage has been done. For something to be done the populations have to be monitored, and obtain permits for shooting by all lessees. Positive points: it allows for localize control by

the landowner; and relatively low cost to the landowner. Negative points: the method would require extensive monitoring of the populations before you see a big hole in the marsh, when population starts increasing is the time to put pressure on them; monitoring on part of the department if aiding landowners will take some substantial aerial and ground surveillance to accomplish; and participation by lessees would require that hunting and trapping are active.

Summarizing Mr. Linscombe stated that most of the individuals they had talked with still believe that the only practical long term solution is commercial trapping. Landowners expressed different views on the problems. In the southwest, they are not interested, they don't have a problem and want to rebuild populations which are down and will do everything possible to increase prices. Southeast landowners realize there is a potential for damage, some has occurred, have taken action in the past and ready to take action if it become that serious but reluctant to go out and start a shooting program until they have a better feel for how serious the problem is and also if there is any chance for a price rebound. One particular company stated that the nutria and muskrat are viewed as a more important resource by coastal communities then than were in the early 80's when there were a lot of oil jobs and activity and everyone was doing well financially. Money from nutria and muskrat is considered some input into the community so people would be reluctant to begin shooting until they felt like it was essential. Mr. Linscombe believes it will have to be the department's job to tell them when we think it is essential. Concluding, Mr. Linscombe stated that the department is not finished and would like to come back to the Commission before the trapping season and advise what the plan will be to address the problem, probably in November.

At Thursday's meeting Ms. Bettsie Baker gave an update on the New Orleans property. Ms. Baker reported that letters to appraisers had been sent out requesting that proposals be submitted bidding on the appraisals on each of the properties in New Orleans. About two weeks ago all the final letters were received and two appraisers have been isolated to conduct the appropriate appraisals. The bids came in on 1) the properties that the department has permission, Legislative approval, to sell, Chartres Street and Conti Street properties. Most of the bids came in at approximately the same value on these properties (\$7,000-\$9,500). At the same time requests were submitted to each of these appraisers to report on what they thought it would take to appraise 2) 400 Royal Street. The bids were all over the map (\$35,000 high bid - \$15,000 low bid). Ms. Baker has talked with Commissioner Jenkins at length about the people that have submitted proposals to set up appraisals on the property and they are both of the opinion that in this situation low bid is insignificant. Want to go with the appraisers who have the best reputations in the area

and whose judgement the department can rely upon. Ms. Baker is going to go forward and initiate contracts on the properties that the department has authority to sell and will conduct further conversations with the individuals who came recommended the highest to find out whether or not the \$35,000 cost can be lessened because of inhouse studies that are already available. Several years ago Facility Planning had done an architectural analysis and structural analysis on the building to determine whether it was sound. This is one of the factors that has influenced the significant differential in the cost for the appraisals. Since there is no legislative authority for selling the 400 Royal Street property and in order to initiate two appraisal contracts, approval from the Commissioner of Administration will be needed. Professional Services are budgeted as separate line items in the budget and at the time the budget was submitted the department was not looking at selling the property. There is no money set aside for appraisals. This will take some action on Ms. Baker's part working with the Commissioner to initiate this and it looks like the department will not be able to move forward quite as rapidly.

Mr. Pol asked about the timeframe. Ms. Baker explained that at this time she does not have the Commissioner of Administration's approval or the Joint Legislative Budget Committee's approval and she may not receive approval this budget year and this would have to be done in next budget cycle. A "Request for Funding" has to be submitted and actually put money into that account category. Typically if it is under \$50,000 the Commissioner can approve on his own authority if it is a worthy request. Given the volatility of this situation and the confusion over the property itself it may be very difficult getting this approval from the Commissioner's office. The two appraisals could throw it easily into the \$60,000 bracket to conduct these analyses. In this event it would have to go into the next budget cycle stated Ms. Baker.

Ms. Baker advised that she was going to meet next week with Chancellor Greg O'Brin, of UNO. In conversation he has committed that he could find some space for the department employees in New Orleans to move to. Ms. Baker stated that she was concerned, from exterior and access and egress from the building, about the safety of the employees in the building. This puts Ms. Baker in a position where she can move them out of the building and give up whatever leverage she has by maintaining it. Ms. Baker asked the Commission for their guidance on this.

Mr. Jenkins asked why there had to be two appraisals on the building. Ms. Baker stated that she could go with one on the building which would give the department the latitude to be under the \$50,000 approval from the Commissioner of Administration. Ms. Baker will be meeting with Dennis Stine on the 18th and will make the request at that time. Mr. Jones asked what the exact process is that the department is going to have to go through in order to sell 400 Royal Street for what we have "dedicated" the

funds to acquisition the wildlife habitat and the possibility of a fishery hatchery. Ms. Baker advised there are two ways to go. The property can be determined as surplus and be turned over to the State Land Office. They can sell it by following their process and it takes about four weeks. Public Notice has to be made once a week for four consecutive weeks and in the fifth week it is done every day and then it goes up for Sheriff's Sale. In this event the revenue from the sale go to the General Fund. The department does not want to do this. What needs to be done is what was done with the other two properties and get a piece of enabling legislation that specifically reserves the funds from the sale to go back to the Conservation Fund or to go wherever the department designates it (if for land acquisition goes to the Natural Heritage Trust Fund). This is going to take a piece of legislation and the department does not have the authority at this point to go forward. If this is the way the department prefers to go and move forward in that direction then the department is going to need some support and this is where we requested from the sports writers to get the public interested so that this piece of legislation can be passed and have this money come back to the department rather than going to the General Fund. At this point this is the only direction that the department has and the only thing that can be done in order to sell it advised Ms. Baker. Ms. Van Sickle stated that she had met with the Governor about this issue and the Governor's Office agrees that the department should be compensated for the building and by the next meeting there should be some news in this regard. Ms. Baker advised the Commissioners that they would be kept informed as to what is going on.

At Thursday's meeting Lt. Colonel Charles Clark presented the Law Enforcement Report. Col. Clark reported that 1988 July citations issued within the state came to a total of 2,205, 1989 July there was a total of 2,624. This is an increase of nearly 400 cases. This increase was almost directly proportioned to fish, shrimp, oyster and license cases which would be contributed to the Coastal parishes of Louisiana. Between the two months of August and July there was a total of 25 resisting arrest, 4 aggravated assault and 2 public intimidation cases that were issued by the agents. The new training officer has directly linked his new training program and the series of training programs that are now being offered in the first phase is officer survival. For the month of August 1988 there was 1,466 cases and August 1989 there was 1,978 cases which was an increase of nearly 500 cases. Act 661 (House Bill 1220) DWI on the water will allow the agents the same powers and privileges of working DWI in the water same as the highway. If a person is stopped for probable cause and there is suspicion or reason to believe that they are intoxicated in a boat they can be asked to submit to a chemical test (breath, blood, etc.) and if a person refuses to do so he can actually loose his driving privileges for six months. Hopefully this will help to cut down the number of people who are killed in boating accidents every year. A recent survey was done in May and it shows that only 28%

of all the boats on the water actually had alcohol on board which means that 70% of the accidents that are in Louisiana are directly attributed to alcohol, so 28% of the people are having 70% of the accidents. This particular DWI law is one that has teeth in it and one which will gain respect and boating fatalities should drop because of it. I&E is now having input into the boating safety mechanism and for the first time in years actually in the classroom with an educational program. Within the state for all employees who operate motor vessels a water vessel operators program is being offered to all state employees and instructors within state government are being created within each department who can at a later date become volunteer instructors concluded Col. Clark.

At Thursday's meeting Secretary Van Sickle gave her report to the Commissioners. Secretary Van Sickle followed up on Col. Clark's comments on the confiscated vessels. The department has been more and more in the business of confiscating vessels and if a shrimper is inside when the area is closed, rather than just write a ticket his vessel will be confiscated wherever possible. This is a lot more trouble but believes one of the ways to get to the habitual violator and get his attention is to confiscate the vessel and one D.A. has awarded the department sixteen that will be sold stated Secretary Van Sickle. Several other things have come up during the past month that the Commissioners needed to be informed of stated Secretary Van Sickle. The parishes of St. Tammany and Tangipahoa have passed resolutions requesting that the Commission change the shell dredging leases that the department have let in Lake Pontchartrain from a one mile boundary to a three mile border, away from the shore for protection of the bottom of the water and reduce user group conflicts including the commercial crab industry in Lake Pontchartrain. Secretary Van Sickle stated that whenever anyone has asked her about this like the Times Picayune or a local parish police juror, the answer is that the leases that have been granted by the Commission are good for three years and roughly one year into the shell dredging leases that the Commission have and does not know what would be the legal procedure, or if there is one, to modify that which is a contract basically between the Commission and the shell dredgers at this point. Secretary Van Sickle stated that the Commission might want to look at this when the leases come up for review which will be roughly a year and asked the Commissioner how they wanted to handle the resolutions that have been received. Chairman Hines commented that it would be difficult to modify at this stage of the game and would be subjected to litigation on the part of the shell dredgers. Mr. Jenkins suggested that Secretary Van Sickle contact the company (Dravo) that has the contract and see if they wanted to volunteer to do this, but outside of this does not think anything can be done. After further discussion among the Commissioners Secretary Van Sickle stated that she would proceed and have a letter in the mail to Dravo next week.

Secretary Van Sickie went on to report that about three weeks ago the Civil Service Director, Herb Sumrell, approved a new pay scale for the agents and a couple of months ago approved one for the biologists. The biologist's pay scale is now comparable to those in DEQ and DNR. The department has lost a lot of good people to these agencies strictly because of the pay. Secretary Van Sickie still feels that the Wildlife Management Specialists are still paid very low (GS 8) with beginning salary of \$933 a month. Two major actions have been taken in dealing with the agent's pay scale. First of all as the result of a bill that was introduced in the Legislator through the Administration's package and supported by the Agents Association and the State Troopers Association the \$260 supplemental pay is now part of their base pay. A beginning agent a year and a half ago would make \$998 a month plus \$260. The \$260 being supplemental pay was granted at the discretion of the Secretary and the Legislator so it could, in hard times, be taken away. In addition to this it was not included into retirement. As a result of the legislation and the new pay scale that incorporates this legislation the \$260 is now part of the base salary. This action alone means that the agent was hired today and retires twenty years from now would have \$230 more a month in his retirement paycheck. The second thing that happened was that the Civil Service Director has approved the pay scales that the department and the Agents Association proposed beginning a couple of years ago that basically brings the Agents in line with the State Troopers. A beginning agent two years ago made \$998 plus the \$260. Now a beginning agent will make \$1446 a month with the ceiling going from about \$1,500 to \$2,100. In addition to the pay scale changes there have been some major changes in rank. Basically the proposal that was put forth through the department and the Agents Association rolled everybody back a rank. In an effort to get these people better pay over the past years they would have to just keep promoting them because the Civil Service system did not accommodate the appropriate pay scales at the district or even the parish level. The cost to the department, on the short term, it is going to be a big factor. The Governor has just approved the 4% merit pay from last year which will be paid this year as well as the 4% merit pay that is due this year. When the department received the news that the 4% from last year was going to be granted it was because of a surplus in the State Budget. The department is part of the state and has asked that the Division of Administration to help cover the back pay as they are doing for every other department in state government. The Division of Administration has committed to the department to do this. On a recurring basis it is going to be maybe \$300,000 to fund the new pay scales on an annual basis, initially it will cost about \$600,000 and this is where the Division of Administration will have to help with the surplus from the General Fund.

The magazine this month is continuing along the lines as it has in the past. The last two issues had posters in them and the poster this month is on snakes of Louisiana and these have been

very well received by the teaching community, scouts, etc. The next poster is going to be the amphibians of Louisiana. The subscription rate is above 60,000 which makes it one of the largest paid subscription magazines in the state. "The Louisiana Conservationist TV Magazine" program will be premiering on LPB September 14, statewide. There will be a half hour program every week and we'll be producing twenty six issues of the program per year with one set of reruns. There will be a press conference at LPB tomorrow morning to discuss and promote this. Dow Chemical has given LPB \$20,000 to do ads in the newspaper, billboards and other promotional to get the public aware of the program airing.

The department has received a Memorandum of Law from the Attorney Generals' Office which was prepared by an Assistant Attorney General that basically states that the Wildlife and Fisheries Department has all of the legal authorization that is needed to enter into agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Service so that the department can take over the Endangered Species functions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or work (parallel) with them for the entire state. One of the concerns the department had was how the TEDS law was going to affect this and the analysis is that our state law that says we cannot enforce the TEDS regulation does not preclude us doing other things related to endangered species which the department wants to do. The Section 6 Agreement should be signed in the next couple of months and it will enable the department to apply for grants between \$200,000 and \$300,000 to do endangered species work in Louisiana.

The shrimpers have had a big problem with the oil and gas companies removing platforms offshore and just leaving the debris on the bottom and the department has requested from the Mineral Management Service the clearance documentation for all of the four hundred and fifty platforms that have been removed in the federal outer continental shelf waters off the Louisiana coast. Looking at the records there has been very poor compliance, no monitoring whatsoever; basically an oil company just picks up the platform and they send a diver down that certifies that the bottom is clear and they don't pick up anything. As a result of the work the department has done with the shrimping industry and the extension service a halting of all platform removal in federal waters has been requested until this issue can be resolved. We have not received a response to this from the MMS.

Secretary Van Sickle reported that survey cards had been sent out to 9,000 deer hunters. The bottom line of the survey is that during the 1988-89 season, eighty percent of Louisiana's deer hunters still hunted most of the time while twenty percent hunted with dogs most of the time. Seventy four percent of the hunters surveyed desired a change in regulations. Of those indicating a desire for change eighty two percent preferred regulations which allowed for more days of still hunting and less of hunting with dogs. Secretary Van Sickle pointed out that a lot people,

especially the dog hunters, are concerned about this and this is just one other factor that could be considered in setting regulations next spring. Another survey will be done in November and it will be of the entire public, not just people who buy licenses but a statistically valid sample of the entire population of the state over a certain age to determine their interest in wildlife and fisheries and what types of new programs they would support. Specifically we are going to target some questions that would indicate what the public opinion is regarding new sources of funding for the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Louisiana is one of two states in the country, Arizona being the other, to receive a grant from the National Organization of Wildlife Agencies to be a pilot state for this particular project. It is called Responsive Management and will have a phone bank of about twenty individuals, that will be paid by the grant, different times of the day to man the phone banks and do a survey that could last up to a half hour on the phone so that the department can be as responsive to the public on lots of issues and specifically target in on new sources of revenue and what would be acceptable to the public.

The codification of Title 56 has been initiated. A memo has gone to all staff asking them to identify areas where there are conflicts in the law. Title 56 has not been codified in ten years and laws have been passed that contradict other parts of the statute. Ms. Baker believes that by next legislative session the codification will be completed advised Secretary Van Sickle.

Ms. Baker stated that for a first pass they will be looking at things that are not substantive in nature. The Legislative Services will be working with the department on the recodification. Hopefully with there assistance this could be ready for the incoming session that will start in April 1990. Going through the Legislative Services will cost a nominal fee as compared to a contract which would cost \$50-60,000 advised Ms. Baker.

At Thursday's meeting the Commission meeting to be held at Toledo Bend was brought to the attention of the Commissioner. This meeting will be a joint meeting between the Louisiana and Texas Wildlife Commissions for October 5-6, 1989. A few items that could be discussed at the meeting would be:

- 1) Saltwater Regulations
- 2) Funding of Wallop-Breaux Project for clearing and marking boat roads in Toledo Bend

Mr. Gary Tilyou gave a brief summary of the Wallop-Breaux Project and history of what Wallop-Breaux is. In 1986 the department started helping local government bodies build boat ramps and other boating and fishing access projects when additional federal monies was received through the Wallop-Breaux Amendment.

This amendment required the department to spend at least ten percent of the money on boating and fishing access projects. However, the Fish Division of the department did not have the twenty five percent match to go with it so different governmental agencies were contacted and were advised that if they put up the twenty five percent the department will help with their projects. In 1986 the department gave out sixty two percent, 1987, fifty three percent, and in 1988 forty one percent was given out. This year roughly sixteen percent is being given out which totals a hundred and sixty two percent over the amount required. The total figure comes to \$463,275 and of that \$320,775 is going to third party projects. There are a couple of departmental projects. In 1989 the department received third party requests for \$2,782,184. This figure shows that the program is very popular commented Mr. Tilyou and it also indicates that it is getting more necessary to institute some type of a policy to give out these funds. In 1989 the department worked to develop what is now called the Wallop-Breaux Policy. Some of the specifics of the policy are 1) now limiting projects to no more than one-half of the ten percent figure; 2) maintenance requirement of one year for every one thousand dollars that is given to the sponsor; 3) projects are now limited to amendments of only five percent; 4) department's definition of a standard boat access facility - concrete boat ramp, a wharf, and a aggregate parking area (no longer going to fund blacktop or concrete parking areas; 5) department projects will be rated according to the new scoring system which involves three different criteria before a project is scored. This year five projects have been selected which are: Bayou Pigeon (Atchafalaya Basin) to receive \$62,325 for dock system and expanding parking area. Toledo Bend to receive \$142,000 for marking boat lanes and clearing boat lanes. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will construct a boat on Sutton Lake (WMA). Saltwater projects are Freshwater Bayou creating a new access to Gulf of Mexico \$116,450 and Fort Pike (N.O.) \$112,500 for expanding parking concluded Mr Tilyou.

At Thursday's meeting Ms. Baker informed the Commissioners about the wreck of an aircraft. The Piper Cub, located at Rockefeller, went down and it is in such serious condition that it would be a great expense to repair it. The engine failed and the NTSB will do an analysis of the engine to see if they can identify what happened to it. The engine was a re-engineered engine and had less than 100 hours on it. Ms. Baker is working with the Risk Management Group and Insurance Company to try and determine what happens with the aircraft. One problem has come out that has brought forth the need for further investigation for all the department aircraft and this is that the plane was significantly under insured. The aircraft had approximately a book value of about \$22,000 and it was insured for approximately \$10,000. All of the department aircraft will be re-evaluated and a letter will be sent to Risk Management to up the insurance on all the planes so that they are appropriately covered. Ms. Baker stated that

given the level of insurance that the aircraft had she does not know whether the department will own the aircraft or whether the insurance company takes possession as a result of them paying out balance due on insurance policy and asked the Commissioners for their opinion on whether or not the aircraft should be replaced and if not what to do next. If the decision is made not to replace the plane Mr. Baker suggested that one of the larger aircraft be moved to Rockefeller and would recommend that the floatplane from New Orleans be moved to Rockefeller. Mr. McCall asked about a pilot for the aircraft. Ms. Baker advised that Guthrie Perry was not certified to fly a floatplane but this can be rectified in a minimal amount of time and the department will work with him on getting him certified on floats. The Commissioners agreed with Ms. Baker on her recommendation

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Bennie Fontenot presented the Southeastern Louisiana Channel Catfish Study report. Mr. Fontenot reported that Channel Catfish is the most sort after fresh water commercial fish in Louisiana. Historically controversy has surrounded the length limits that have been imposed for commercial harvest of the fish. Since 1956 commercial fishermen have worked through their legislators and the courts to continuously lower and then for the years 1981-84 completely eliminate restrictions on the harvest of small fish. Commercial fishermen in 1956 felt that the fourteen inch minimum length limit in place at that time was to restrictive and as a result of this controversy Davis and Posey studied Channel Catfish length at maturity. Their conclusions were that the majority of the female channel catfish were mature at ten and a half to eleven inches total length and the majority of the males mature at twelve to twelve and a half inches total length. Although there were no population studies done they concluded that the length limit could be reduced at least on a trial basis. Nine years later in 1967 by act of the Louisiana Legislature the legal length limit for the harvest of channel catfish was lowered from fourteen inches to thirteen inches total length. In 1971 a group of commercial fishermen again requested a further reduction in total for channel catfish. This prompted Perry and Carver to reanalyze length at maturity for channel catfish. Their results were not significantly different from Davis and Posey in 1958. They found in southwest Louisiana that fifty percent of the female channel catfish matured at 11.35 inches while the male fifty percent level was 10.6 inches. Again without the benefit of appropriate population studies it was reasoned that a fifty percent minimum length limit would assure that at least fifty percent of the mature populations would escape commercial harvest and insure adequate recruitment. With the result of this study the minimum length limit was reduced to eleven inches total length in 1972. In 1981 a group of commercial fishermen in southeast Louisiana, especially in the Lake Des Allemands, Lake Maurepas areas requested yet another reduction of legal size for channel catfish harvested in their areas. They claimed the majority of channel catfish in the lakes were below the eleven inches minimum size limit were

possibly stunted and often spawned at sizes frequently less than eleven inches. These fishermen were successful in obtaining a restraining order that suspended statewide the minimum size limit on channel catfish during 1981. The suspension continued to December 31, 1984 as a result of Senate Concurrent Resolution enacted during the 1982, 83, and 84 legislative sessions. In 1985 the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries after analyzing the available data on channel catfish populations in Lake Des Allemands and Maurepas indicated the possibility that these fish were perhaps in the condition as described by the fishermen who wanted to harvest the undersized channel catfish. Following the advice of staff and exercising authority it required from the Legislature in 1984 the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission suspended minimum size rule for channel catfish for five years in southeastern Louisiana which included Lake Des Allemands and Lake Maurepas. At the same time a three year study was begun. The three year project major goals was to determine that the catfish populations in Lake Maurepas and Lake Des Allemands were stunted and if so why? A research program was designed to determine population estimates, age and growth, and investigate food habits and gonadal development in channel catfish. Certain water quality parameters were monitored in these lakes. In March of 1989 on the basis of knowledge gained during the three year study it was determined that the department had made a mistake. The fish analyzed in 1985 had been aged incorrectly and the conclusion that the fish were stunted was not supported by the data. At this time Mr. Fontenot asked Mr. Tim Morrison, Project Leader to present the results of the three year study, including information on the stunted question and make a recommendation.

Mr. Morrison presented the results of the study and showed a slide series. Aging of the fish at the time (1981) showed the department that a one year old fish was thought to be roughly three inches a two year old fish was five and a half to six inches, three year old fish right at nine inches, four year old fish were eleven inches and five year old fish were thirteen. The data in March 1989 showed that actually the one year old fish was above seven inches in length, two year old fish were above ten inches and the three year old fish were well above twelve inches. When comparing the growth rate from Lake Maurepas and Lake Des Allemands to other areas of the state they are very similar. Length of maturity data that was available showed percent maturity of the fish and this is size in inches. In Lake Des Allemands it was found that the fifty percent level of maturity for the channel catfish was right at ten inches. Lake Maurepas at eight inches eighty percent of the fish were mature. When going into population estimates of the lakes, it was found that in Lake Maurepas over the three years of study (1985-87) there was a decline each year, not only in total numbers but also pounds per acre. There was very little fingerlings production throughout the lake all three years. This was also backed up by the biologists on the lake who noticed by 1987 there was virtually no commercial activity on Maurepas. In Lake Des

Allemands there was a beginning of what is called a fluctuating or cycling effect of the population. In 1985 there was one hundred and forty nine fish per acre and seventy two pounds per acre. In 1986 there was a decline to ninety six fish per acre and 60 pounds, in 1987 there is a rise back to three hundred nineteen fish per acre and two hundred and twenty four pounds. This cycling effect is also backed up by the National Marine Fisheries Catch Data which shows that from 1981 to present when the length limit had been removed the fisheries population go into cycles (between highs and lows). In 1986 there was a drastic decline in number of fingerlings produced per acre which produced a decline in the 1988 fish catch rate. The National Marine Fisheries data indicated that in 1988 there was a ninety percent decrease in catch in Lake Des Allemands over the fourteen year average. Concluding Mr. Morrison stated that the original data was misinterrupted, these fish were actually not stunted. No minimum size limits violate management principles. The basic management fishery principle is that the fish spawn at least once before harvested. Growth over fishing; basically this is harvesting the fish before he reaches the optimum size and weight. Growth over fishing could lead to recruitment over fishing. By overharvesting fish the recruitment is affected for successive years. There is a total decline in fingerling production just like what was seen in Lake Maurepas and Lake Des Allemands. Law Enforcement; obviously a uniform law enforcement policy throughout the state is desired. The department is recommending that the eleven inch minimum length limit on the commercial harvest of channel catfish be reinstated on January 1, 1990. (Even if the Commission does not take any action, length limit will automatically come back into effect.) Chairman Hines asked if anyone had any questions or discussion.

Representative Melancon addressed the Commission and asked them to concur and support the eleven inch length.

Representative Triche addressed the Commission and asked them to concur and support the eleven inch length.

Leon Fonseca, commercial fisherman, addressed the Commission and advised that they have been spawning their own fish in five gallon buckets for thirty years. Mr. Fonseca does not support the eleven inch length.

Raymond Joseph Fonseca, Jr., commercial fisherman, addressed the Commission and does not support the eleven inch length.

Henry Truelove addressed the Commission and asked them to consider the possibility of phasing back in the size on the fish so there would not be such a devastating impact on the commercial fishermen's lives.

Mr. Jenkins asked what kind of timetable did the Commission have to make a decision on this issue. Mr. Fontenot advised that

if the department goes through the Administrative Procedure Act, which takes ninety days, action would have to be taken at this meeting to have it on time by January 1, 1990, unless there was emergency action taken. Mr. Morrison was asked by Secretary Van Sickle to report on the findings of the interviews that were done with the fish houses in south Louisiana. Thirty nine interviews were conducted of fish houses throughout south Louisiana to determine price size structure of the small fish vs. the large fish and whether these dealers dealt in small fish or not. Twenty five out of the thirty nine did not deal with the small fish at all, nine of the interviews dealt with farm raised fish only and four of the dealers dealt both in small and large fish. The average paid for fish under eleven inches, which is the minimum length limit, was thirty five cents a pound (in the rough) and average price for over eleven inches was forty five cents a pound. Twenty six dealers were contacted in southeast Louisiana, ten dealers in southwest Louisiana, two dealers in northcentral Louisiana and one dealer out of state. The dealer out of state was the Fulton Fish Market in New York City and they responded that the major market on the east coast for catfish was of the farm raised catfish variety, the wild catfish variety was of low market value, primarily composed of white catfish and bullheads concluded Mr. Morrison.

Thomas Breaux with BCC Seafood addressed the Commission and stated that he was not contacted for the interviews and does a half of million dollars a year in little collarbone fish and sells to six different companies (large) on the east coast. Reinstatement of the eleven inch length will hurt his business and put about thirty people out of work.

Chairman Hines advised that a decision will be made on this issue tomorrow when the meeting reconvenes in the morning at 9 A.M.

At Thursday's meeting Secretary Van Sickle asked the Commission to meet during the week of September 18-22 for discussion on the Black Drum Fishery Management Plan and Stock Assessment. At Friday's meeting it was decided that the meeting would be held on Tuesday, September 19th at 9 A.M. at the Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters in Baton Rouge.

Mr. Pol made a motion for adjournment of Thursday's meeting and continue the meeting at 9 A.M. in the morning, seconded by Mr. McCall. Passed unanimously.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Bennie Fontenot stated that the department had presented the Channel Catfish Study report in detail at Thursday's meeting and made the recommendation of reinstatement of the eleven inch length limit.

Chairman Hines called for questions or discussion. Mr. Palmisano requested that the staff research and get with the legal section to see if there are any other options that can be taken on this issue and report back by letter to each of the Commission members. If there are any actions to be take then the Commission can do so. Mr. Fontenot stated that they would be happy to do this.

Raymond Joseph Fonseca, Jr., commercial fishermen, addressed the Commission on the study that was done in 1965 by Mr. Gladney Davidson, Lloyd Posey and Harry Schafer titled "Use of Cans In Harvesting Catfish".

Johnny Guidry, Guidry's Seafood, and bait dealer Raceland, LA addressed the Commission on the impact on the industry that is involved with the Channel Catfish if the eleven inch length limit is reinstated. Believes this issue needs to be studied more and a smaller fish is better than a larger fish.

Mr. Palmisano requested that the Commission find out what their legal boundaries are in this situation and would like information in the study and a report from the legal section to find out if there are any other options that the Commission has whatever they are and receive this as soon as possible.

At Friday's meeting the November meeting dates were set for Thursday, November 2, 1989 and Friday, November 3, 1989 at Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

At Friday's meeting it was moved by Mr. Jenkins to waive the rule so that a resolution pertaining to the Pittman-Robertson and Dingle-Johnson Federal Aid Fund could be brought before the Commission. Seconded by Mr. Pol. Passed unanimously.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Arthur Williams presented a resolution pertaining to the Pittman-Robertson and Dingle-Johnson Federal Aid Funds. This resolution calls for the support of the Louisiana Congressional delegation in the protection of these funds from federal diversion proposals.

(The full text of the resolution is
made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, Hunters and Fishermen in Louisiana ad the nation willingly accepted a federal tax on certain hunting and fishing supplies, and

WHEREAS, The Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program and the Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid in Sportfish Restoration Program funds are an integral part of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries operating and capital outlay budgets, and

WHEREAS, The State has invested both PR and DJ funds in projects which directly benefit hunters and fishermen of the state as well as many nonconsumptive users, and

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has become aware of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services intent to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement on the administration and management of these restoration programs, and

WHEREAS, It is apparent that this procedure is another attempt to misdirect these funds from their intended purpose, and

WHEREAS, Any such attempt to alter federal aid programs as they now exist will severely reduce funding available for ongoing programs established by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and

WHEREAS, There is an almost continual attempt by federal agencies to modify these important programs.


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby call upon the Louisiana Congressional delegation for their support and assistance in protecting these important "user pay" programs from federal diversion proposals, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission request that Louisiana Congressional delegation to protest any attempt to alter the administration and management of the PR/DJ programs.

Motion made by Mr. Jenkins to accept resolution and seconded by Mr. McCall. Passed unanimously. A cover letter will be sent with the resolution to the delegation covering the fact that a similar resolution had been adopted by the Commission and the delegation had responded favorably but NOW ANOTHER attempt is being made to raid these funds.

Ms. Baker pointed out that Saturday, September 23, 1989, is National Hunting and Fishing Day. Festivities will be held at the Waddill Tract in Baton Rouge and other statewide activities will also be held in Alexandria, Minden and Monroe.

There being no other business or comments to come before the Commission, Mr. Palmisano made motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Pol. Passed unanimously.



Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA
SEPTEMBER 7-8, 1989

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of August 3-4, 1989
3. Discussion of Duck Stamp Prints 1-5
4. Southeastern LA Channel Catfish Study Report - Bennie Fontenot
5. Notice of Intent - Confidentiality of Fishery Dependent Data-
Phil Bowman
6. Notice of Intent - Harvest Permit for Sharks - Phil Bowman
7. Final Analysis - Spotted Seatrout Quota
8. Ratification of Goodrich Oil Company Lease - Mike Landrum
9. Emergency Declaration - Trapping Season Recommendations - Johnnie
Tarver
10. Update on New Orlenas Property - Bettsie Baker
11. Law Enforcement Report - Winton Vidrine
12. Secretary's Report to Commission and Scheduling One-Day
Commission Meeting in Baton Rouge for Week of September 18 to
Discuss Black Drum Fishery Management Plan and Stock Assessment
(9AM-3PM)
13. Set November Meeting Date

OTHER BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will be at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 7th, 1989 at the Community Center, Grand Isle. On Friday, September 8th, the Commission will resume its regular meeting at 9:00 A.M.

The following items will be on the agenda:

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8. Ratification of Goodrich Oil Company Lease
9. Emergency Declaration - Trapping Season Recommendation
10. Update on New Orleans Building
11. Law Enforcement Report
12. Secretary's Report to the Commission
13. Set November Meeting Date

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12. Secretary's Report to the Commission
13. Set November Meeting Date

State of Louisiana



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
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BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

August 28, 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*
RE: September Board Meeting

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 7, 1989, at the Community Center in Grand Isle.

On Friday, September 8th, the meeting will be continued, at the same location at 9:00 A.M.

1. Approval of Minutes of August 3-4, 1989

HUGH BATEMAN

2. Status Atchafalaya Basin Easements to be acquired by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
3. Discussion of Duck Stamp Prints 1-5

JERRY CLARK

4. "Southeastern LA Channel Catfish Study Report"
5. Notice of Intent - Confidentiality of Fishery Dependent Data
6. Notice of Intent - Harvest Permit for Sharks
7. Final Analysis - Spotted Seatrout Quota

DON PUCKETT

8. Ratification of Goodrich Oil Company Lease

Commission Meeting
Page 2
August 28, 1989

JOHNNIE TARVER

9. Emergency Declaration - Trapping Season Recommendation

BETTSIE BAKER

10. Update on New Orleans Property

WINTON VIDRINE

11. Law Enforcement Report

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE

12. Secretary's Report to the Commission and Scheduling One-Day Commission Meeting in Baton Rouge for Week of September 18 to Discuss Black Drum Fishery Management Plan and Stock Assessment.

OTHER BUSINESS

13. Set November Meeting Date

VVS:sb

C: Don Puckett
Kell McInnis
Bettsie Baker
John Medica
Division Chiefs

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

POST OFFICE BOX 88000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

August 7, 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of Fisheries,
Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

RE: Commission Meeting Agenda - September 7-8, 1989

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to me by Monday, August 21st, any agenda items your Office may have for the meeting in Grand Isle at the Community Center, Thursday and Friday, Sept. 7-8, 1989. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo to me and indicate this on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda.

Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie



Town of Grand Isle

POST OFFICE BOX 200 • LUDWIG LANE • GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA 70358 • PHONE: (504) SUNSET 7-3196

Commissioners
9-19-89
PC

ANDY VALENCE
MAYOR

ROSCOE BESSON, JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

GIGI PARRA
TOWN CLERK

September 15, 1989

ALDERMEN:

RAY A. SANTINY, SEAT A
JOHN CHERAMIE, SEAT B
ROGER CAMARDELLE, SEAT C
David Camardelle, SEAT D
PAUL BRADBERRY, SEAT E

Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898


Attn: Ms. Virginia Van Sickle


Dear Ms. Van Sickle:


We would all like to express our deepest appreciation for the monthly meeting of the Wildlife & Fisheries being held on Grand Isle. It was very beneficial to the public as well as to us. We hope that you enjoyed being on Grand Isle and hope that we can do it again in the future.

With warm personal regards, we remain

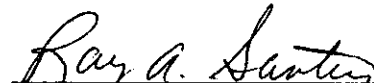
Yours truly,


Andy Valence, Mayor

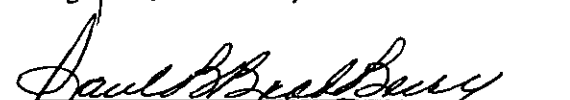

John Cheramie, Alderman


David Camardelle, Alderman


Roscoe Besson, Chief of Police


Ray A. Santiny, Alderman


Roger Camardelle, Alderman


Paul Bradberry, Alderman

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

OUACHITA WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA:

GOODRICH OIL COMPANY LEASE RATIFICATION

- WHEREAS: 1. On December 28, 1960, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission purchased a tract of land, consisting of 14,600 acres more or less, from the Ouachita Farm Corporation, which tract now comprises the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area.
2. The above Act of Sale provided that the Commission would receive an undivided one half (1/2) interest in and to all minerals in and under said property and an undivided one half (1/2) interest in and to any and all mineral and royalty rights and revenues pertaining to said property, the other one half (1/2) interest to remain in the vendor Ouachita Farm Corporation.
3. Said sale also provided that the Commission would have the executive rights to the mineral interest retained by Ouachita Farm Corporation, that is, the exclusive rights to initiate, manage and handle all mineral royalty interests pertaining to the property, including the execution of leases.
4. On September 14, 1988, the State Mineral Board, on behalf of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, issued to the Goodrich Oil Company State Agency Lease #13309 for State Agency Tract #24295, which tract is comprised of land conveyed to the Commission in the above referenced sale and which comprises in part the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area. This lease was for the undivided fifty percent mineral interest owned by the Commission. The above lease was issued after review, approval, and recommendation of The

Mineral Board and its technical staff.

5. A second mineral lease dated September 15, 1988, was obtained by Goodrich Oil Company from Ouachita Farm Corporation for the remaining fifty percent mineral interest.
6. The second mineral lease from Ouachita Farm Corporation contained no approval or ratification from this Commission, although such is required by the above referenced Act of Sale.
7. In order to insure that the second lease from Ouachita Farm Corporation was valid and legal, an Act of Acknowledgment and Ratification was prepared for execution by the Secretary of the Department acknowledging, accepting, adopting, and ratifying the second lease from Ouachita Farm Corporation, which Act was executed by the Secretary of the Department on August 7, 1989.
8. It is now the desire of this Commission to ratify the action of the Secretary in order to remove any legal impediment and induce Goodrich to drill and explore for oil, gas, or other minerals on the subject tract, under the state lease and the Ouachita Farm Lease. Therefore be it resolved that this Commission does hereby:
 - a) adopt, accept, ratify, confirm, and execute the Ouachita Farm Corporation's undivided one half mineral interest as fully as if said lease had been originally executed by the Commission for and on behalf of Ouachita Farm Corporation;
 - b) recognize the full validity of the same in so far as it effects all of the right, title, and interest of the Commission other than the Commission's undivided one half mineral interest;
 - c) grant, lease, and let unto Goodrich,

Ouachita's undivided one half mineral interest subject to and in accordance with all the terms and conditions set forth in the Ouachita Farm Lease;

- d) ratify and confirm the action of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries of August 7, 1989, in executing the Act of Acknowledgment, Acceptance, Adoption, and Ratification of oil, gas, and mineral lease; and
- e) further authorize the Department's Secretary to take any and all necessary actions to perfect the above leases and Act of Ratification including but not limited to the execution of appropriate documents.

Grand Isle, Louisiana, this ____ day of September, 1989.



Donald Hines, Chairman



Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
AT THE REGULAR MEETING HELD IN GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA ON FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8, 1989.

WHEREAS, The fur industry of Louisiana presents a major potential resource of economy and income for many of the citizens of our state; and

WHEREAS, This resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase in importance in our state; and

WHEREAS, An annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with recognized wildlife management techniques based on scientific management; and

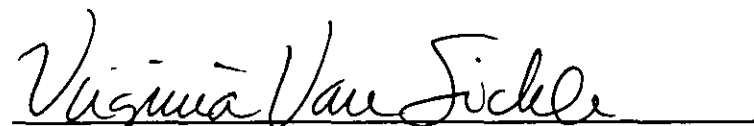
WHEREAS, Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority concerning out-of-state shipment for otter and bobcat furs will again require placement of a possession tag by trappers or buyers to insure state of origin; and

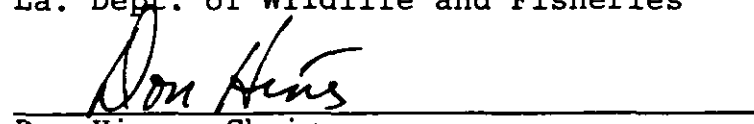
WHEREAS, The zonation concept has continued to be beneficial in reducing late caught unprime furs and has produced mainly favorable comments generated within the fur industry;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish the 1989-90 furbearer trapping season for the south zone as being December 1, 1989, through February 28, 1990. The Department, in an attempt to provide more opportunity for trapping of bobcat and fox after deer hunting seasons are closed, does hereby establish the 1989-90 furbearer trapping season for the north zone as November 20, 1989, through February 15, 1990, with the addition of an experimental season from February 16, 1990, through March 15, 1990, with trapping techniques restricted to the use of Soft-Catch traps (padded jaw traps).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the attached regulations governing the buying, tagging and shipment of bobcat and otter pelts are adopted for the 1989-90 trapping season.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department Secretary shall be authorized to close or extend the trapping season as biologically justifiable.


Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries


Don Hines, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
RT. 4 BOX 78
NEW IBERIA, LA 70560
PHONE (318) 373-0032

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Johnnie Tarver, Administrator

FROM: Greg Linscombe, Program Manager

DATE: August 29, 1989

RE: Summary of the 1988-89 Trapping Season
and Recommendations for the 1989-90 Season

RECEIVED
LA DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

AUG 29 89

FUR & REFUG
TOAL BOUN

Results of the 1988-89 trapping season indicate a decrease in value of \$2.8 million from the 1987-88 season. Over forty-two percent of the decline in value was a result of the drop in nutria prices and harvest. Both muskrat harvest and price dropped substantially. The raccoon harvest last season was only 21 percent of the previous year's harvest and the value dropped by \$.8 million. Another 30 percent of the decline in overall Louisiana fur value can be attributed to this drop in raccoon harvest and value.

NUTRIA

The nutria contributed an average of 52 percent of the harvest for the 10 year period 1978-79 through 1987-88. The 10 year average value for nutria was \$4.4 million as compared to \$383,534 for this past season. This past year's harvest of 223,222 is the lowest harvest in 35 years. The average price paid to trappers for nutria pelts was \$1.72 for this past season compared to an average of \$4.51 for the previous 10 years. Prices paid for eastern nutria dropped from \$2.34 to \$1.52 while western prices dropped from \$3.03 to \$2.50. These drops in average pelt prices were reflected in this past year's harvest with the harvest of eastern nutria dropping by 223,388 and western dropping by 171,036 pelts. Obviously harvest is directly related to the prices received by the trapper. These continued low prices for nutria are more justification for the advertising and promotional campaigns being conducted by the Fur and Alligator Advisory Council. Reports from land managers and trappers indicate increased nutria populations in some southeast coastal marshes.

Reports from fur dealers indicate a fairly low inventory of nutria on hand and retail sales and skin markets appear to be slowly improving. If nutria prices remain low for one or perhaps two years, I predict substantial coastal vegetation damage over a large portion of southeast Louisiana. It is also quite possible that some damage may occur in adjacent agriculture.

MUSKRAT

The harvest of muskrat last year (22,193) decreased dramatically from the 1987-88 season (163,670). Prices paid for both westerns and easterns declined by an average of 46 percent.

Harvest of western muskrat was concentrated in eastern Vermilion Parish stretching from Vermilion Bay to Pecan Island. Muskrat populations continue to be noticeably missing in southeastern marshes. This lack of animals is directly related to the major flooding that occurred during the 1985 hurricane season and eatouts that occurred early during the 1980's. However, the key food plant for muskrats, three-cornered grass (Scirpus olneyi), is showing a dramatic increase in this area of the coast. Some signs of muskrat increase are apparent, however it will probably be another year before dramatic increases are noted.

Although there are only slight inventories of muskrats on hand there appears to be little interest in this particular fur. The outlook for muskrat was encouraging because of the interest demonstrated in this fur at the major fur fairs this spring. Prices were expected to improve as a result of the drought and resulting short harvest in the midwest and northeast United States.

Both nutria and muskrat prices should be strong but are being pushed down by very low prices for ranched mink. Ranched mink are the bench mark for fur prices. Over-production in Scandinavia and North America have forced ranch mink prices down very near production cost. Low prices for mink result in bargain prices for mink coats. This in turn reduces the sales of coats made of wild furs. However such low prices cannot continue. Many mink farmers will not last another year, thus lowering production and resulting in higher prices for ranch mink. As this occurs, prices for other short hair furs like nutria and muskrat will improve substantially.

Johnnie Tarver, Administrator
August 29, 1989
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RACCOON

The 1988-89 raccoon harvest (34,987) dropped by over 129,000. The harvest of raccoons dropped both in upland and coastal areas. Prices for upland raccoons dropped to an average of \$3.50 while the previous year's average was \$6.75. The average price paid for upland raccoon during the previous 10 years has been approximately \$12.00. The overall value of the raccoon resource has averaged almost \$2 million, however during this past season the total value was only \$101,462. The raccoon lost its position as the most valuable fur resource outside of the coastal marshes. The mink captured this position with a smaller total harvest but an increase in price from \$12.50 to \$14.00. Large male mink sold for over \$22.00.

FUR HARVEST VALUE

The overall value of Louisiana fur harvest has continued to decline dramatically from the 1980-81 season when the harvest was worth over \$18 million. The average value for the past 10 years has been approximately \$9 million, however, we have been well below that average for seven of the last ten years. This trend is not expected to change until the prices and related harvest for nutria, muskrat, or raccoon show a significant turnaround.

TRAPPING LICENSE SALES

Last year was the third season with the new \$25 and \$5 trapping licenses. As expected the number of licenses was down but not as much as had been anticipated. A total of 9,458 licenses were sold in 1985-86, 6,947 in 1986-87, 5,038 in 1987-88 and 3,093 in 1988-89. This reduction in license sales is probably more a result of the prices paid for fur than the cost of the license. Since the raccoon is the most important species in North Louisiana and 50 percent of the licenses are sold outside of the coast, the results of low prices for raccoons resulted in a substantial drop in license sales in this area.

The Division will again request a special effort be made by enforcement agents to check trappers for proper licensing. Raccoon hunters selling fur are also required to have a trapping license.

Johnnie Tarver, Administrator
August 29, 1989
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NORTH LOUISIANA
EXPERIMENTAL SEASON

This experimental season ran from February 16 through March 15 and was attempted for two reasons. It would allow trappers to attempt to harvest more bobcat and fox after the closure of the deer hunting season with dogs as well as the quail and rabbit seasons. Hunters with leased lands concerned about the possibility of hunting dogs being accidentally caught in traps would be more likely to allow trapping after these seasons had closed. This experimental season also allowed the introduction of the Soft Catch trap. The padded jaw trap had been developed over a number of years and has demonstrated substantial reduction in injury while maintaining good catch efficiency. Many progressive state wildlife agencies are encouraging the use of this trap and several will be mandating the use of this trap in the very near future.

The total number of trappers participating in the regular season in north Louisiana was down. Information from the Louisiana Trappers Association indicated some participating in the experimental season. Certainly the season had no negative biological impact. It should be continued for several years to encourage trappers to purchase and use Soft Catch traps.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 1989-90 SEASON

As per attached resolution:

SOUTH ZONE: December 1, 1989 through February 28, 1990
NORTH ZONE: November 20, 1989 through February 15, 1990
EXPERIMENTAL SEASON: Soft Catch only (Padded Trap)
February 16, 1990 through March 15, 1990


Greg Linscombe
Program Manager

GL:ybd

Attachments

COMPARATIVE TAKES OF FUR ANIMALS IN LOUISIANA

1988-89 SEASON

	<u>No. of Pelts</u>	<u>Approximate Price to Trapper</u>	<u>Value</u>
NUTRIA (EASTERN)	178,082	\$ 1.52	\$ 270,684.64
NUTRIA (WESTERN)	45,140	2.50	112,850.00
	<u>223,222</u>	<u>\$ 1.72</u>	<u>\$ 383,534.64</u>
MUSKRAT (EASTERN)	1,013	\$.50	\$ 506.50
MUSKRAT (WESTERN)	21,180	1.52	32,193.60
	<u>22,193</u>	<u>\$ 1.47</u>	<u>\$ 32,700.10</u>
RACCOON (UPLAND)	20,992	\$ 3.50	\$ 73,472.00
RACCOON (COASTAL)	13,995	2.00	27,990.00
	<u>34,987</u>	<u>\$ 2.90</u>	<u>\$ 101,462.00</u>
MINK	25,782	\$14.00	\$ 360,948.00
OPOSSUM	1,052	.25	263.00
OTTER	1,924	10.00	19,240.00
SKUNK	--	--	--
RED FOX	76	4.00	304.00
GRAY FOX	579	9.00	5,211.00
BOBCAT	874	20.00	17,480.00
BEAVER	830	3.00	2,490.00
COYOTE	<u>76</u>	<u>3.00</u>	<u>228.00</u>
TOTAL PELTS	311,595		\$ 923,860.74
	<u>No. of Pounds</u>		
NUTRIA MEAT	124,968	.07	\$ 8,747.76
RACCOON MEAT	135,050	.50	67,525.00
OPOSSUM MEAT	<u>1,041</u>	<u>.25</u>	<u>260.25</u>
TOTAL MEAT	261,059		\$ 76,533.01
TOTAL PELTS AND MEAT			\$1,000,393.75

COMPARATIVE TAKES OF FUR ANIMALS IN LOUISIANA

1987-88 SEASON

	No. of Pelts	Approximate Price to Trapper	Value
NUTRIA (EASTERN)	401,470	\$ 2.34	\$ 939,439.80
NUTRIA (WESTERN)	216,176	3.03	655,013.28
	<u>617,646</u>		<u>\$1,594,453.08</u>
MUSKRAT (EASTERN)	65,468	1.25	81,835.00
MUSKRAT (WESTERN)	98,202	2.38	233,720.76
	<u>163,670</u>		<u>\$ 315,555.76</u>
RACCOON (UPLAND)	98,510	6.75	664,942.50
RACCOON (COASTAL)	65,674	4.18	274,517.32
	<u>164,184</u>		<u>939,459.82</u>
MINK	33,365	12.50	417,062.50
OPOSSUM	18,440	.75	13,830.00
OTTER	4,021	12.40	49,860.40
SKUNK	25	.50	12.50
RED FOX	456	10.00	4,560.00
GRAY FOX	3,164	20.00	63,280.00
BOBCAT	1,971	45.00	88,695.00
BEAVER	1,274	4.00	5,096.00
COYOTE	<u>1,212</u>	<u>4.00</u>	<u>4,848.00</u>
TOTAL PELTS	1,009,428		\$3,496,713.06

	No. of Pounds		
NUTRIA MEAT	345,780	.05	17,289.00
RACCOON MEAT	633,751	.50	316,875.50
OPOSSUM	<u>18,255</u>	<u>.25</u>	<u>4,563.75</u>
TOTAL MEAT	997,786		\$ 338,728.25
TOTAL PELTS AND MEAT			<u>\$3,835,441.31</u>

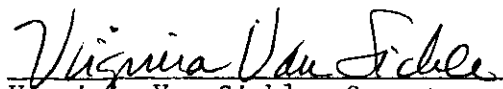
COMPARATIVE TAKES OF FUR ANIMALS IN LOUISIANA
10 Year Average (1978-79 through 1987-88 seasons)


	No. of Pelts	Approx. Price to Trapper	Value
NUTRIA (Eastern)	668,754	\$ 4.02	\$2,688,391.08
NUTRIA (Western)	311,937	5.57	1,737,489.09
	<u>980,691</u>		<u>\$4,425,880.17</u>
MUSKRAT (Eastern)	243,131	3.34	\$ 812,057.54
MUSKRAT (Western)	86,783	4.32	374,902.56
	<u>329,914</u>		<u>\$1,186,960.10</u>
RACCOON (Upland)	125,677	11.96	\$1,503,096.92
RACCOON (Coastal)	73,334	5.67	415,803.78
	<u>199,011</u>		<u>\$1,918,900.70</u>
MINK	37,306	10.70	\$ 399,174.20
OPOSSUM	32,281	1.82	58,751.42
OTTER	6,098	23.14	141,107.72
SKUNK	201	1.82	365.82
RED FOX	1,108	31.87	35,311.96
GRAY FOX	3,089	29.26	90,384.14
BOBCAT	2,728	53.98	147,257.44
BEAVER	1,336	10.02	13,386.72
COYOTE	1,639	13.77	22,569.03
TOTAL PELTS	<u>1,595,402</u>		<u>\$8,440,049.42</u>
 No. of Pounds			
NUTRIA MEAT	572,455	.04	\$ 22,898.20
RACCOON MEAT	804,573	.43	345,966.39
OPOSSUM MEAT	37,266	.25	9,316.50
	<u>1,414,294</u>		<u>\$ 378,181.09</u>
TOTAL PELTS AND MEAT			\$8,818,230.51

The following resolution was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular meeting held in Grand Isle, Louisiana, September 8, 1989.

RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, Hunters and Fishermen in Louisiana and the nation willingly accepted a federal tax on certain hunting and fishing supplies, and
- WHEREAS, The Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program and the Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid in Sportfish Restoration Program funds are an integral part of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries operating and capital outlay budgets, and
- WHEREAS, The State has invested both PR & DJ funds in projects which directly benefit hunters and fishermen of the state as well as many non-consumptive users, and
- WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has become aware of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services intent to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement on the administration and management of these restoration programs, and
- WHEREAS, It is apparent that this procedure is another attempt to misdirect these funds from their intended purpose, and
- WHEREAS, Any such attempt to alter federal aid programs as they now exist will severely reduce funding available for ongoing programs established by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and
- WHEREAS, there is an almost continual attempt by federal agencies to modify these important programs.
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby call upon the Louisiana Congressional delegation for their support and assistance in protecting these important "user pay" programs from federal diversion proposals, and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission request the Louisiana Congressional delegation to protest any attempt to alter the administration and management of the PR/DJ programs.


Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries


Dr. Don Hines, Chairman
Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

NOTICE OF INTENT

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations to preserve the confidentiality of any data, information or statistics submitted or collected pursuant to Section 345 of Title 56 of the Louisiana revised statutes. Authority for adoption of this rule is included in R.S.56:345.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to: Jerry Clark, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000.

RULE

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations to preserve the confidentiality of any data, information or statistics submitted or collected pursuant to Section 345 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes:

CONFIDENTIALITY: All data collected or otherwise obtained by personnel of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in the course of their duties and other landings data collected by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission are confidential, and are not to be divulged, except in aggregate form, to any person except employees of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA/NMFS) whose duties require this information, except as permitted by law or court order. Aggregate form, with respect to data shall mean data or information submitted by three or more persons that have been summed or assembled in such a manner so as not to reveal, directly or indirectly, the identity or business of any such person. Neither the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries nor members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will voluntarily release confidential information to other state or federal agencies, except NOAA/NMFS as stated above, and to the extent possible, will oppose other agency and congressional subpoenas to obtain confidential information. Neither the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries nor members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will disclose confidential statistics under court order without specific approval by the State Attorney General's Office. Employees of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission who have access to confidential statistics shall be subject to the provisions and penalties for unauthorized disclosure.

Bettie Bates
for Don Hines

The following resolution was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular meeting held in Grand Isle, Louisiana, September 8, 1989.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Hunters and Fishermen in Louisiana and the nation willingly accepted a federal tax on certain hunting and fishing supplies, and

WHEREAS, The Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program and the Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid in Sportsfish Restoration Program funds are an integral part of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries operating and capital outlay budgets, and

WHEREAS, The State has invested both PR & DJ funds in projects which directly benefit hunters and fishermen of the state as well as many non-consumptive users, and

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has become aware of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services intent to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement on the administration and management of these restoration programs, and

WHEREAS, It is apparent that this procedure is another attempt to misdirect these funds from their intended purpose, and

WHEREAS, Any such attempt to alter federal aid programs as they now exist will severely reduce funding available for ongoing programs established by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and

WHEREAS, there is an almost continual attempt by federal agencies to modify these important programs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby call upon the Louisiana Congressional delegation for their support and assistance in protecting these important "user pay" programs from federal diversion proposals, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission request the Louisiana Congressional delegation to protest any attempt to alter the administration and management of the PR/DJ programs.

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1989 LOUISIANA DUCK STAMP PRINTS
CURRENTLY IN THE DEPARTMENT POSSESSION

(Department has reserved prints 1-5 of all editions for future display or sale)

Governor's Edition (all prints framed)

- #1 - to be displayed in the Governor's Mansion
- #2 - to be displayed in Secretary's Office
- #3 - to be displayed in the Louisiana Room
- #4 - to be displayed in Game Division Administrator's Office (444)
- #5 - to be displayed in Deputy Secretary's office (possible donation for land donation)

Artist Proof Edition*

- #1 - not received (unframed)
- #2 - not received (unframed)
- #3 - not received (unframed)
- #4 - not received (unframed)
- #5 - to be displayed in Under Secretary's office (framed)

Executive Edition (all prints will be unframed)*

- #1 - not received
- #2 - not received
- #3 - not received
- #4 - not received
- #5 - not received

Medallion Edition (all prints are unframed)

- #1-5 - received and in Dave Morrison's possession
- #1207 - used for art shows and displays

Regular Edition (all prints unframed)

- #1-5 - received and in Dave Morrison's possession

*All prints not received will be sent shortly

Total Cost to the Department for all Editions (Paid By Direct Deduction from Royalty Payment)

Governor's Edition	\$2,385.00
Artist Proof Edition	\$1,375.00
Executive Edition	\$1,125.00
Medallion Edition	\$750.00
Regular Edition	<u>\$337.50</u>
	\$5,922.00

1989 LOUISIANA DUCK STAMP PRINTS
CURRENTLY IN THE DEPARTMENT POSSESSION

(Department has reserved prints 1-5 of all editions for future display or sale)

Governor's Edition (all prints framed)

- #1 - to be displayed in the Governor's Mansion
- #2 - to be displayed in Secretary's Office
- #3 - to be displayed in the Louisiana Room
- #4 - to be displayed in Game Division Administrator's Office (444)
- #5 - to be displayed in Deputy Secretary's office (possible donation for land donation)

Artist Proof Edition*

- #1 - not received (unframed)
- #2 - not received (unframed)
- #3 - not received (unframed)
- #4 - not received (unframed)
- #5 - to be displayed in Under Secretary's office (framed)

Executive Edition (all prints will be unframed)*

- #1 - not received
- #2 - not received
- #3 - not received
- #4 - not received
- #5 - not received

Medallion Edition (all prints are unframed)

- #1-5 - received and in Dave Morrison's possession
- #1207 - used for art shows and displays

Regular Edition (all prints unframed)

- #1-5 - received and in Dave Morrison's possession

*All prints not received will be sent shortly

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Regular Edition	<u>\$337.50</u>
	\$5,922.00

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

OUACHITA WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA:

GOODRICH OIL COMPANY LEASE RATIFICATION

- WHEREAS: 1. -On December 28, 1960, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission purchased a tract of land, consisting of 14,600 acres more or less, from the Ouachita Farm Corporation, which tract now comprises the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area.
2. The above Act of Sale provided that the Commission would receive an undivided one half (1/2) interest in and to all minerals in and under said property and an undivided one half (1/2) interest in and to any and all mineral and royalty rights and revenues pertaining to said property, the other one half (1/2) interest to remain in the vendor Ouachita Farm Corporation.
3. Said sale also provided that the Commission would have the executive rights to the mineral interest retained by Ouachita Farm Corporation, that is, the exclusive rights to initiate, manage and handle all mineral royalty interests pertaining to the property, including the execution of leases.
4. On September 14, 1988, the State Mineral Board, on behalf of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, issued to the Goodrich Oil Company State Agency Lease #13309 for State Agency Tract #24295, which tract is comprised of land conveyed to the Commission in the above referenced sale and which comprises in part the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area. This lease was for the undivided fifty percent mineral interest owned by the Commission. The above lease was issued after review, approval, and recommendation of The

Mineral Board and its technical staff.

5. A second mineral lease dated September 15, 1988, was obtained by Goodrich Oil Company from Ouachita Farm Corporation for the remaining fifty percent mineral interest.
6. The second mineral lease from Ouachita Farm Corporation contained no approval or ratification from this Commission, although such is required by the above referenced Act of Sale.
7. In order to insure that the second lease from Ouachita Farm Corporation was valid and legal, an Act of Acknowledgment and Ratification was prepared for execution by the Secretary of the Department acknowledging, accepting, adopting, and ratifying the second lease from Ouachita Farm Corporation, which Act was executed by the Secretary of the Department on August 7, 1989.
8. It is now the desire of this Commission to ratify the action of the Secretary in order to remove any legal impediment and induce Goodrich to drill and explore for oil, gas, or other minerals on the subject tract, under the state lease and the Ouachita Farm Lease. Therefore be it resolved that this Commission does hereby:
 - a) adopt, accept, ratify, confirm, and execute the Ouachita Farm Corporation's undivided one half mineral interest as fully as if said lease had been originally executed by the Commission for and on behalf of Ouachita Farm Corporation;
 - b) recognize the full validity of the same in so far as it effects all of the right, title, and interest of the Commission other than the Commission's undivided one half mineral interest;
 - c) grant, lease, and let unto Goodrich,

~~Quachita's~~ undivided one half mineral
interest subject to and in accordance with
all the terms and conditions set forth in the
Ouachita Farm Lease;

- d) ratify and confirm the action of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries of August 7, 1989, in executing the Act of Acknowledgment, Acceptance, Adoption, and Ratification of oil, gas, and mineral lease; and
- e) further authorize the Department's Secretary to take any and all necessary actions to perfect the above leases and Act of Ratification including but not limited to the execution of appropriate documents.

Grand Isle, Louisiana, this ____ day of September, 1989.

Donald Hines, Chairman

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

**La. Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Trapping Season Regulations**

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(b), the Administrative Procedures Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set the trapping season, and R.S. 56:260, and action by the Commission on September 7, 1989, the trapping season is hereby established in accordance with the following regulations: No exceptions of these procedures will be permitted, and anyone taking fur bearers contrary to these regulations will be charged in accordance with Title 56 of the Louisiana laws pertaining to Wildlife and Fisheries, appropriate federal laws and regulations, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regulations, and/or Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals regulations.

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The fur industry of Louisiana is the result of a major wildlife resource and provides supplemental income for many of the citizens of our state; and as this resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase in importance; annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with sound wildlife management principles.

The creation of a north and south trapping zone continues to allow for the most efficient harvest of prime furbearers in these two diverse habitat types within the state. Therefore, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish the 1989-90 furbearer trapping season for the south zone as being December 1, 1989 through February 28, 1990. After carefully considering the market situation for some upland species, especially the raccoon, the Department, in an attempt to provide more opportunity for trapping of bobcat and fox after deer hunting seasons are closed, does hereby establish the 1989-90 furbearer trapping season for the north zone as November 20, 1989 through February 15, 1990, with the addition of an experimental season from February 16, 1990, through March 15, 1990, with trapping techniques restricted to the use of Soft-Catch traps (padded jaw traps) or their equivalent. The Department Secretary shall be authorized to close or extend the trapping season in any portion of the state as biologically justifiable.

Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority for otter and bobcat furs continue to require placement of an export tag prior to out-of-state shipment. The regulations governing the buying, tagging and shipment of bobcat and otter pelts adopted for the 1989-90 trapping season may be viewed at the Quail Drive office, off Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, phone (504)765-2811.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to Johnnie Tarver, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA
SEPTEMBER 7-8, 1989

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of August 3-4, 1989
3. Status Atchafalaya Basin Easements to be Acquired by Corps of Engineers - Tommy Prickett and Kenny Ribbeck
4. Discussion of Duck Stamp Prints 1-5
5. Southeastern LA Channel Catfish Study Report - Bennie Fontenot
6. Notice of Intent - Confidentiality of Fishery Dependent Data- Phil Bowman
7. Notice of Intent - Harvest Permit for Sharks - Phil Bowman
8. Final Analysis - Spotted Seatrout Quota
9. Ratification of Goodrich Oil Company Lease - Mike Landrum
10. Emergency Declaration - Trapping Season Recommendations - Johnnie Tarver
11. Update on New Orleans Property - Bettsie Baker
12. Law Enforcement Report - Winton Vidrine
13. Secretary's Report to Commission and Scheduling One-Day Commission Meeting in Baton Rouge for Week of September 18 to Discuss Black Drum Fishery Management Plan and Stock Assessment (9AM-3PM)
14. Set November Meeting Date

OTHER BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

AGENDA
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GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA
SEPTEMBER 7-8, 1989

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OTHER BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

POST OFFICE BOX 98000

BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will be at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 7th, 1989 at the Community Center, Grand Isle. On Friday, September 8th, the Commission will resume its regular meeting at 9:00 A.M.

The following items will be on the agenda:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of August 3-4, 1989
3. Status Atchafalaya Basin Easements to be Acquired by Corps of Engineers
4. Discussion of Duck Stamp Prints 1-5
5. Southeastern LA Channel Catfish Study Report
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10. Emergency Declaration - Trapping Season Recommendation
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12. Law Enforcement Report
13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
14. Set November Meeting Date

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11. Update on New Orleans Building
12. Law Enforcement Report
13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
14. Set November Meeting Date

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

August 28, 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Don Hines and Commission Members

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

RE: Commission Meeting, Grand Isle, Louisiana, September 7th
and 8th, 1989

As you will recall the Commission meeting for August was to be held at Grand Isle, Louisiana, but because of tropical storm Chantal the meeting had to be moved to Baton Rouge. The September Commission meeting will be held at Grand Isle and Mayor Andy Valence is graciously arranging dinner for those attending the meeting. Also Mr. Warren Pol will be hosting a before dinner get-together at the Community Center at 7:00 P.M. on the 7th. Hoping you can make it.

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

POST OFFICE BOX 88000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

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LOUISIANA CONTRACTORS LICENSE NO. 2

AIRTROL, INC.

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 64617

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70896-4617

Street Address

3960 North Street

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806-3318

(504) 383-2617 • FAX (504) 343-7986

August 21, 1989

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898

RE: September 7th & 8th Commission
Meeting, Grand Isle, Louisiana

Dear Virginia:

I have arranged to have a seafood buffet on Thursday night with cocktails before the dinner. The tentative arrangement is for approximately thirty people.

This is the arrangement: Thursday night, September 7, 1989, cocktails begin at 7:00 PM, Jo-Bob's Restaurant (formerly Raul's) at the Bayou Rigeaud end of the island.

Please invite any of the department heads and assistants who will be at the meeting.

By copy of this letter, I am inviting the commission.

Sincerely,



Warren Pol

copy: Mr. Jimmie Jenkins
Mr. Norman McCall
Mr. Bert Jones
Dr. Don Hines
Mr. Dale Vinet
Mr. Joe Palmisano

WIP:prs

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

89 AUG 23 AID : 42



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MARINE FISHERIES
SEISMIC SECTION
03-46
ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: January 1, 1989 THRU January 31, 1989

During this period, office and field activity consisted of:

1. 2 Crews that applied for permits to work
2. 50 Crews that we received notifications for work
3. 27 Crews that were working during the month
4. 0 Crews that cancelled work that was scheduled
5. 1 Crews that renewed or applied for bond to work in state

For month of January we collected \$ 42,390
in agents fees and \$ 0 in redline areas. Total
collections year to date \$ 42,390.

TOTAL ACTIVITY YEAR TO DATE:

1989

1. 2
2. 50
3. 27
4. 0
5. 1

DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MARINE FISHERIES
SEISMIC SECTION
03-46
ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: February 1, 1989 THRU February 28, 1989

During this period, office and field activity consisted of:

1. 2 Crews that applied for permits to work
2. 43 Crews that we received notifications for work
3. 23 Crews that were working during the month
4. 1 Crews that cancelled work that was scheduled
5. 0 Crews that renewed or applied for bond to work in state

For month of Februaury we collected \$ 46,980
in agents fees and \$ 40,300 in redline areas. Total
collections year to date \$ 129,670.00.

TOTAL ACTIVITY YEAR TO DATE:

1989

1. 4
2. 93
3. 50
4. 1
5. 1

DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MARINE FISHERIES
SEISMIC SECTION
03-46
ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: March 1, 1989 THRU March 31, 1989

During this period, office and field activity consisted of:

1. 2 Crews that applied for permits to work
2. 38 Crews that we received notifications for work
3. 34 Crews that were working during the month
4. 0 Crews that cancelled work that was scheduled
5. 1 Crews that renewed or applied for bond to work in state

For month of March we collected \$ 44,010
in agents fees and \$ 10,500 in redline areas. Total
collections year to date \$ 184,180.00.

TOTAL ACTIVITY YEAR TO DATE:

1989

1. 6
2. 131
3. 84
4. 1
5. 2

DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
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PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MARINE FISHERIES
SEISMIC SECTION
03-46
ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: April 1, 1989 THRU April 30, 1989

During this period, office and field activity consisted of:

1. 1 Crews that applied for permits to work
2. 12 Crews that we received notifications for work
3. 37 Crews that were working during the month
4. 2 Crews that cancelled work that was scheduled
5. 0 Crews that renewed or applied for bond to work in state

For month of April we collected \$ 51,030
in agents fees and \$ 0 in redline areas. Total
collections year to date \$ 235,210.00.

TOTAL ACTIVITY YEAR TO DATE:

1989

1. 7
2. 143
3. 121
4. 3
5. 2

DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

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BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MARINE FISHERIES
SEISMIC SECTION
03-46
ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: May 1, 1989 THRU May 31, 1989

During this period, office and field activity consisted of:

1. 0 Crews that applied for permits to work
2. 31 Crews that we received notifications for work
3. 31 Crews that were working during the month
4. 0 Crews that cancelled work that was scheduled
5. 0 Crews that renewed or applied for bond to work in state

For month of May we collected \$ 46,170
in agents fees and \$ 0 in redline areas. Total
collections year to date \$ 281,380.00.

TOTAL ACTIVITY YEAR TO DATE:

1989

1. 7
2. 174
3. 152
4. 3
5. 2

DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

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BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MARINE FISHERIES
SEISMIC SECTION
03-46
ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: June 1, 1989 THRU June 30, 1989

During this period, office and field activity consisted of:

1. 4 Crews that applied for permits to work
2. 16 Crews that we received notifications for work
3. 24 Crews that were working during the month
4. 0 Crews that cancelled work that was scheduled
5. 0 Crews that renewed or applied for bond to work in state

For month of June we collected \$36,520
in agents fees and \$ 0 in redline areas. Total
collections year to date \$ 317,900.00.

TOTAL ACTIVITY YEAR TO DATE:

1989

1. 11
2. 190
3. 176
4. 3
5. 2

DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



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4. 0
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DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



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2. 93
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DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



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3. 84
4. 1
5. 2

DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



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GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MARINE FISHERIES
SEISMIC SECTION
03-46
ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: April 1, 1989 THRU April 30, 1989

During this period, office and field activity consisted of:

- | | | |
|----|-----------|---|
| 1. | <u>1</u> | Crews that applied for permits to work |
| 2. | <u>12</u> | Crews that we received notifications for work |
| 3. | <u>37</u> | Crews that were working during the month |
| 4. | <u>2</u> | Crews that cancelled work that was scheduled |
| 5. | <u>0</u> | Crews that renewed or applied for bond to work in state |

For month of April we collected \$ 51,030
in agents fees and \$ 0 in redline areas. Total
collections year to date \$ 235,210.00.

TOTAL ACTIVITY YEAR TO DATE:

1989

- | | |
|----|------------|
| 1. | <u>7</u> |
| 2. | <u>143</u> |
| 3. | <u>121</u> |
| 4. | <u>3</u> |
| 5. | <u>2</u> |

DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MARINE FISHERIES
SEISMIC SECTION
03-46
ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: May 1, 1989 THRU May 31, 1989

During this period, office and field activity consisted of:

1. 0 Crews that applied for permits to work
2. 31 Crews that we received notifications for work
3. 31 Crews that were working during the month
4. 0 Crews that cancelled work that was scheduled
5. 0 Crews that renewed or applied for bond to work in state

For month of May we collected \$ 46,170
in agents fees and \$ 0 in redline areas. Total
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POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MARINE FISHERIES
SEISMIC SECTION
03-46
ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: June 1, 1989 THRU June 30, 1989

During this period, office and field activity consisted of:

- | | | |
|----|-----------|---|
| 1. | <u>4</u> | Crews that applied for permits to work |
| 2. | <u>16</u> | Crews that we received notifications for work |
| 3. | <u>24</u> | Crews that were working during the month |
| 4. | <u>0</u> | Crews that cancelled work that was scheduled |
| 5. | <u>0</u> | Crews that renewed or applied for bond to work in state |

For month of June we collected \$36,520
in agents fees and \$ 0 in redline areas. Total
collections year to date \$ 317,900.00.

TOTAL ACTIVITY YEAR TO DATE:

1989

- | | |
|----|------------|
| 1. | <u>11</u> |
| 2. | <u>190</u> |
| 3. | <u>176</u> |
| 4. | <u>3</u> |
| 5. | <u>2</u> |

DATE SUBMITTED: August 1, 1989

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

August 7, 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of Fisheries,
Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

RE: Commission Meeting Agenda - September 7-8, 1989

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to me by Monday, August 21st, any agenda items your Office may have for the meeting in Grand Isle at the Community Center, Thursday and Friday, Sept. 7-8, 1989. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo to me and indicate this on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda.

Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

August 7, 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of Fisheries,
Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

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State of Louisiana



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C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

NEWS RELEASE

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
Secretary



Contact
(504) 765-2917

89-103

8/29/89

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will be at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7, at the Community Center, Grand Isle. On Friday, Sept. 8, the Commission will resume its regular meeting at 9 a.m.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- 1.) Roll call.
- 2.) Approval of minutes of Aug. 3-4.
- 3.) Discussion of duck stamp prints 1-5.
- 4.) Southeastern Louisiana channel catfish study report.
- 5.) Notice of intent -- confidentiality of fishery dependent data.
- 6.) Notice of intent -- harvest permit for sharks.
- 7.) Ratification of Goodrich Oil Company lease.
- 8.) Final analysis -- spotted seatrout quota.
- 9.) Emergency declaration -- trapping season recommendation.
- 10.) Update on New Orleans building.
- 11.) Law enforcement report.
- 12.) Secretary's report to the Commission.
- 13.) Set November meeting dates.

OTHER BUSINESS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

GRAND ISLE COMMUNITY CENTER

PLEASE READ REVERSE SIDE FOR RULES AND REGULATIONS

INDOOR RESERVATION X

OUTDOOR RESERVATION _____

1. Date(s) requested: Thursday 8/3 Time 2:00 P M M
Friday 8/4 Time 10:00 A M M
Time _____ M _____ M
2. Type of event: Wildlife and Fisheries Commission monthly meeting Indoor Res. only
3. Organization/Group: _____
Circle one: Family Club School Church Company
4. Person in charge: Virginia Van Sickle Phone: 504/7652803
Address: P. O. Box 98000 City Baton Rouge Zip: 70899
- Alternate in charge: Don Hines Phone: 318/346-6871
5. Number of people: 50 Age group: Over 18
If under 18, how many chaperone(s)? _____
6. What type of refreshments? None
Served: _____ Sold: _____
7. Do you intend to have seafood? No
8. State type of entertainment: None

I, undersigned, representing the group requesting the use of the Grand Isle Community Center's facilities understand that this is only a request and that further, no tickets or publicity or other arrangements regarding the event, beer trucks, etc are to be made until I am notified by the Community Center's Director that this event has been booked and confirmed. I have read and understood that the rules printed on the back of this sheet and do agree to comply.

DATE: 6/7/89

SIGNATURE: Virginia Van Sickle

Application approved by: _____

Date: _____



Town of Grand Isle

POST OFFICE BOX 200 • LUDWIG LANE • GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA 70358 • PHONE: (504) SUNSET 7-3196

ANDY VALENCE
MAYOR

ROSCOE BESSON, JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

GIGI PARRA
TOWN CLERK

ALDERMEN:
RAY A. SANTINY, SEAT A
JOHN CHERAMIE, SEAT B
ROGER CAMARDELLE, SEAT C
ARTHUR BELLANGER, SEAT D
PAUL BRADBERRY, SEAT E

May 3, 1989

Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898
Attn: Ms. Virginia Van Sickle

Dear Ms. Van Sickle:

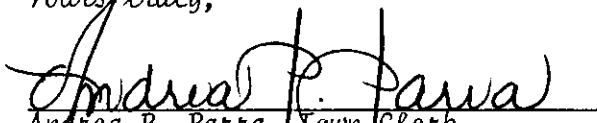
Enclosed please find a copy of Resolution #954 which extends an invitation to the Wildlife & Fisheries Commission to hold their monthly meeting of July in the Town of Grand Isle.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen would be delighted for the Commission to come to Grand Isle for such an event.

If these arrangements can be decided upon in favor of our request, please contact my office so that we can make the necessary preparations.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (504) 787-3196.

Yours truly,


Andrea P. Parra, Town Clerk
Town of Grand Isle

09 MAY 5 P12:49
LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES
RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

"Grand Isle - Island of Enchantment, Beauty, And Excellence"

"Cheniere - Caminada — The Paradise Peninsula, Where The People Are As Beautiful As Its Name"

RESOLUTION NO. 954

A Resolution inviting the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission to hold their monthly meeting of July in the Town of Grand Isle.

WHEREAS, it is felt that for a better relationship between the Town of Grand Isle and the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission could be obtained if a meeting could be held in Grand Isle to involve this community due to the fact that the fishing industry is a major income for the people of Grand Isle. Not only is commercial fishing vital to Grand Isle; recreational fishing also plays a large role in the community; and

WHEREAS, the community of Grand Isle would be greatly honored to entertain the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission for the two (2) day meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA, THAT

it is hereby inviting the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission to hold their monthly meeting of July in the Town of Grand Isle.

This Resolution was considered section by section and as a whole and was offered by Alderman Santiny, seconded by Alderman Camardelle.

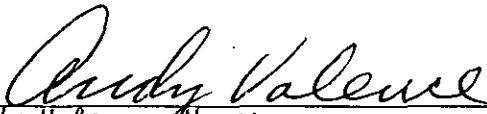
Roll call vote hereon as follows:

YEAS: 4 Aldermen - Ray Santiny, Roger Camardelle, Arthur Bellanger
and Paul Bradberry

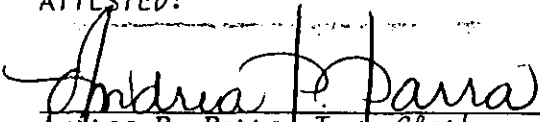
NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 Alderman - John Cheramie

This Resolution was declared adopted this 11th day of April, 1989.


Andy Valence, Mayor
Town of Grand Isle

ATTESTED:


Andrea P. Parra, Town Clerk
Town of Grand Isle

RESOLUTION NO. 954



WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

W. I. POL

MEMBER

POST OFFICE BOX 64617

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70696

504/383-2617

May 8, 1989

Ms. Andrea P. Parra, Town Clerk
Town of Grand Isle
Post Office Box 200
Grand Isle, Louisiana 70358

Dear Ms. Parra:

On behalf of the Secretary and the Commission, I wish to thank you, the Mayor, and the Board of Aldermen for your kind invitation.

By copy of this letter to Dr. Don Hines, Chairman, and Mrs. Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary, I am requesting that they place this item on the agenda for consideration at our next meeting.

I agree that our visit to Grand Isle is overdue and we need to renew acquaintances at the island.

Again, please convey our thanks to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen.

Sincerely Yours,

Warren Pol
Vice-Chairman

copy: ✓ Mrs. Virginia Van Sickle
Dr. Don Hines

WIP:prs

89 MAY 10 AM 10:07
LA WILDLIFE & FISHERIES
RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



Town of Grand Isle

POST OFFICE BOX 200 · LUDWIG LANE · GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA 70358 · PHONE: (504) SUNSET 7-3196

ANDY VALENCE
MAYOR

ROSCOE BESSON, JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

GIGI PARRA
TOWN CLERK

ALDERMEN:
RAY A. SANTINY, SEAT A
JOHN CHERAMIE, SEAT B
ROGER CAMARDELLE, SEAT C
ARTHUR BELLANGER, SEAT D
PAUL BRADBERRY, SEAT E

May 3, 1989

Mr. Warren I. Pol
P. O. Box 64617
Baton Rouge, LA 70896

Dear Mr. Pol:

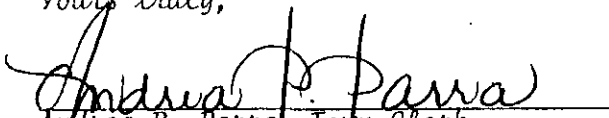
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Yours truly,


Andrea P. Parra, Town Clerk
Town of Grand Isle

copy to each.

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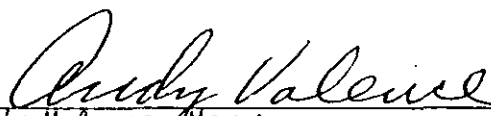
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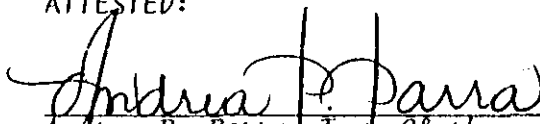
Roll call vote hereon as follows:

YEAS: 4 Aldermen - Ray Santiny, Roger Camardelle, Arthur Bellanger and Paul Bradberry
NAVS: 0
ABSENT: 1 Alderman - John Cheramie

This Resolution was declared adopted this 11th day of April, 1989.


Andy Valence, Mayor
Town of Grand Isle

ATTESTED:


Andrea P. Parra, Town Clerk
Town of Grand Isle

RESOLUTION NO. 954

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA
SEPTEMBER 7-8, 1989

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of August 3-4, 1989 Meeting
3. Resolution: Atchafalaya Basin Easements by Corps of Engineers - Kenny Ribbeck
4. "Southeastern LA Channel Catfish Study Report" - Bennie Fontenot
5. Notice of Confidentiality of Fishery Dependent Data - Phil Bowman
6. Notice of Intent - Harvest Permit for Sharks - Phil Bowman
7. Ratification of Goodrich Oil Company Lease - Mike Landrum
8. Emergency Declaration - Trapping Season Recommendation
9. Update on New Orleans Property - Bettsie Baker
10. Law Enforcement Report - Winton Vidrine
11. Secretary's Report to the Commission and Scheduling One-Day Commission Meeting in Baton Rouge for the Week of September 18th (9AM-3PM)
12. Set November Meeting Date

OTHER BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

POST OFFICE BOX 88000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

August 7, 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of Fisheries,
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FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

*Resolution: Catechafaloyca Basin, Easements by
corps. of Eng., T. Puckett*

J. Turner

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

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C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

Emergency - Trapping Season Recommendation

RECEIVED
A DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

AUG 07 89

JR & REFUGE
BATON ROUGE

Jerry Clark

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 88000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

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Bob Dennie

Inland Fish Division - Bennie Fentress
*"Southeastern fl. channel
Catfish Study Report"*

RECEIVED
LA. DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

AUG - 7 1989

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OFFICE OF FISHERIES

Jerry Clark

State of Louisiana



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C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

① Notice of Intent Confidentiality
of Fishery dependent data

② Notice of Intent HARVEST PERMIT for
SHARKS

Rec'd 8/18/89

RECEIVED
LA. DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

AUG - 7 1989

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OFFICE OF FISHERIES

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

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Bob Dennie

8-21-89 Update on New Orleans Property - Bettsie Baker

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

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BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898

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C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

8-17-89 Law Enforcement Report - Winton Vidrine

State of Louisiana

The one... The only

SO EASY TO USE --- IT ROUTES,
IT FILES, IT SORTS, IT DICES.

TO: VVS

<input type="checkbox"/> For Your Info	<input type="checkbox"/> Call me
<input type="checkbox"/> Confidential (Ready & Eat)	<input type="checkbox"/> Future
<input type="checkbox"/> What's this?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File
<input type="checkbox"/> This should scare you	<input type="checkbox"/> Help!!
<input type="checkbox"/> Call home	<input type="checkbox"/> Urgent?
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

File & Control Ruler

MISSISSIPPI
SECRETARY

BUDDY ROEMER
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Bob Dennie

*I have nothing to add to the
Agenda for the Sept. 7-8, 1989
Commission Meeting*

[Signature]
Seafood Board



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
DISTRICT VII
400 ROYAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130
PHONE (504) 568-5887

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

FAX FORM

TO: <i>Virginia VanSickle</i>	DATE: <i>Aug 11, 89</i> TIME:	NUMBER OF PAGES FOLLOWING: <i>1</i>
FROM: <i>Paul Turner</i>	FAX OPERATOR: <i>KT</i>	
SUBJECT: <i>Commission Meeting</i>		
PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT (504) 568- ⁵⁸⁸⁶ 5685 FOR ANY PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS.		
MESSAGES		

Dary Lester

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

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C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

*Virginia,
Do you want to inform the Commission
about progress of Sec 6 Agreement?*

*Nothing 6DL
10 Aug 89*

*Great idea!
VVS*

*Paula - please add this
item.*

State of Louisiana

RECEIVED



AUG 7 1989

INFORMATION &
EDUCATION DIV.

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 88000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898

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C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

Bob
I have nothing
Write nothing from T&E

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

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C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

*we have nothing
Blue*

W. Vidrine

State of Louisiana



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FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

RE: Commission Meeting Agenda - September 7-8, 1989

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to me by Monday, August 21st, any agenda items your Office may have for the meeting in Grand Isle at the Community Center, Thursday and Friday, Sept: 7-8, 1989. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo to me and indicate this on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda.

Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

Send to
Paula

W.C.

*Law enforcement
Report
Winton*

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

August 22, 1989

TO: Virginia Van Sickle
FROM: Sharyn L. Bateman *sb.*
SUBJECT: Notices of Intent and Emergency Declaration for September
Commission Meeting

Listed below are the Notices of Intent and Emergency Declaration that will be presented at the September Commission Meeting. If you need to review any of them please let me know.

1. Emergency Declaration - Trapping Season Recommendations - Johnnie Tarver
2. Notice of Intent - Confidentiality of Fishery Dependent Data - Phil Bowman
3. Notice of Intent - Harvest Permit for Sharks - Phil Bowman

Sharyn -

sb

*Please be sure Jerry
Clark concurs with
these notices (# 2+3).*

He has concurred.

Va.